

LITERARY GAZETTE

Journal of Archaeology, Science, and Art.

N° 21 — 1856.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 19TH.

Price Fourpence.
Stamped Edition, Fivepence.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND IRELAND will be held, this year, at EDINBURGH, and
commences on TUESDAY, July 22nd, ending 29th.
PATRON—HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT.
28, Suffolk Street, July 12, 1856.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE AD-
VANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.—The Next MEETING will
be held at CHELTENHAM, commencing on August 6, 1856, under
the Presidency of Professor DAUBENY, M.D., F.R.S., &c.
The Reception Room will be in the Rotunda, Montpellier.
Notices of Communications intended to be read to the Association,
accompanied by a statement whether the author will be
present at the Meeting, may be addressed to John Phillips, M.A.,
F.R.S., Assistant General Secretary, Magdalen Bridge, Oxford; or
to Captain Robertson, Richard Beamish, Esq., F.R.S., and J.
West Huggill, Esq., Local Secretaries, Cheltenham.

JOHN TAYLOR, F.R.S., General Treasurer.
4, Queen Street Place, Upper Thames Street, London.

WILL CLOSE ON THE 26TH INST.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TRAFAL-
GAR SQUARE.—The EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL
ACADEMY is NOW OPEN. Admission (from Eight till Seven
o'clock) One Shilling. Catalogue, One Shilling.
J. P. KNIGHT, R.A., Secretary.

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ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTISTS, is Open
daily from Ten to Six. Admission 1s. Catalogue 6d.
GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

WILL CLOSE ON SATURDAY NEXT, THE 26TH INST.
EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF
BRITISH ARTISTS. The THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL
EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN from Nine a.m.
until dusk. Admission 1s.
ALFRED CLINT, Honorary Secretary.
Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East.
NOTICE.—Exhibitors are requested to send for their Works on
MONDAY, the 28th, or TUESDAY, the 29th.

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SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER
COLOURS. The FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION
is now OPEN at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East (close to
Trafalgar Square), from 9 till dusk. Admission 1s. Catalogue 6d.
JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN
WATER COLOURS will close their TWENTY-SECOND
ANNUAL EXHIBITION, Saturday next, 26 July, NOW OPEN
at their Gallery, 53, PALL MALL, near St. James's Palace, daily
from 9 till dusk.
Admission 1s. Season Tickets 5s. each.
JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHÆO-
LOGICAL SOCIETY.

The FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on
THURSDAY, JULY 24th, at the ARCHITECTURAL MUSEUM,
CANON ROW, WESTMINSTER.
The Chair will be taken at Eleven o'clock.
The Annual Report of the Council and the Balance Sheet will be
read, and the Officers-bearers for the ensuing Year will be
elected.

At 12 p.m. Visitors will be admitted, when some general remarks
upon the Architecture of Westminster Abbey will be offered, by
GEORGE GILBERT SCOTT, Esq., A.R.A., Vice-President of the
Royal Institute of British Architects and Architect to the Chapter
of Westminster; and upon the Monuments, by the Rev. CHARLES
BOUTELL, M.A. The Council, Members, and Visitors will then
proceed to the Abbey, and there, by special permission of the
Sub-Dean and Chapter, will inspect the Building and its Monu-
ments under the direction of Mr. Scott and Mr. Boutell.
At 3 p.m. the Council, Members of the Society, and their Friends,
will re-assemble at the ARCHITECTURAL MUSEUM, where a
CONVERSATION will be held, and at which Papers will be
read.

Visitors will be admitted by Cards only, which must bear their
names, and the signatures of the Members by whom they are
introduced.

By order of the Council,
GEORGE BISH WEBB, Hon. Sec.
6, Southampton Street, Covent Garden.
16th July, 1856.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—Excur-
sion to CIRENCESTER, STROUD, GLOUCESTER,
CHELTENHAM, &c., and HEREFORD.—On SATURDAY,
JULY 26th, a Train will leave Eddington at 6.30 p.m., returning
on the following MONDAY from Hereford at 3.30 p.m., and inter-
mediate Stations as per Handbills.

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scopes, and numerous Miscellaneous Property.

The Days of View will be stated in the separate Catalogues,
which will be ready in due time, and may be obtained, at One
Shilling each, at the Residence; and of Messrs. Winstanley,
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EXHIBITION OF ART-TREASURES OF
THE UNITED KINGDOM, TO BE OPENED AT MAN-
CHESTER, ON THE 1st MAY, 1857.

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HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT.
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The Executive Committee respectfully invite communications
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From the known catalogues of the resources of the country, thus
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valuable to the student from its chronological arrangement, than
attractive to the public from its beauty and completeness.

The Committee do not desire to elicit from manufacturers specu-
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The Exhibition Building will be erected on a site adjoining the
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sideration has been given to the mode of lighting the halls for the
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taken to protect the works of art from injury.

In all cases where desired by the owners, the Committee will
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There will be railway communication from all parts of England,
direct to the Exhibition Building, and contributions will be re-
ceived from, and returned to, their owners free of expense.

Communications may be addressed to the Chairman, 100, Mosley
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THESE volumes conclude the present labours of Mr. Warter; but it seems that more letters are yet to come. A note in the fourth volume announces as being ready for publication a supplementary collection, comprising the whole of the correspondence with Caroline Bowles, spreading over a period of twenty years. The most ardent believers in the immortality of Southey may be fairly dismayed at such a mass of private revelations; for it is hardly possible that the public interest in the man, or the poet, can hold out through a series which threatens to be interminable. And the worst of it is, that this series is compiled upon a principle which not only requires that every scrap of Southey's epistolary intimacies should be explored and exhausted, but which is egregiously fallacious in itself.

"Southey's letters," says the injudicious motto on the title-page of this work, contributed by the impulsive Mr. Landor, "show his true character;" and, therefore, for the purpose of showing Southey's "true character," Mr. Warter prints in *extenso* a quantity of letters occupying between two and three thousand pages of letter-press. But it escaped the discernment of the editor, that private letters are true to the character of the writer only in the direct relations out of which they arise, and with which they are immediately connected. When confidential communications are thrown open to the public, they become exposed to a test wholly different from that to which they were intended to be submitted, and, instead of exhibiting character in its responsible aspects, serve only to betray its weaknesses. Nor are such publications reprehensible merely on the ground of the injury they inflict on established reputations; they are to be condemned still more for the feeling of insecurity they are calculated to engender in society. If a man is liable to have his private letters printed after his death, it must inevitably make him suspicious of his friends, and compel him to repress that intimate interchange of thoughts and feelings which constitutes the most sacred bond of social intercourse.

We have a very remarkable illustration of the mischief of this kind of indiscriminate publicity in the volume before us. Could Southey have anticipated that so indiscreet a use was to be made of his correspondence, he would certainly never have committed his character to a tithe of the letters here collected. They relate for the most part to matters exclusively personal to Southey himself, and are written with a laxity of judgment and expression which would be perfectly intelligible and excusable between intimate friends, but which recoil with a most damaging effect upon the writer when they are thus communicated to the outside world. We can very easily conceive Southey talking in this loose way to some old companion who had gone down to visit him at Keswick; nor have we any right to find fault with him for writing in the same spirit, under similar conditions. But when his hasty words and thoughtless insinuations against others are put into a book, with all the grave solemnities of editorial care, they make an impression and

demand a consideration which cannot be otherwise than injurious to his memory. The blame, wherever it fall, must fall heaviest on the recipients of the letters who have not respected the confidence of their correspondent, and on the editor who has given such letters to the press.

A considerable portion of the whole is occupied by references to Southey's relations with the 'Quarterly Review.' That unlucky subject, which was evidently a source of constant irritation to him, perpetually obtrudes itself upon his correspondence. He is never tired of telling his friends how ill he was treated, and how ill he thought of every person concerned in the publication. To say the least of it, the propriety of printing such complaints, mixed up with personal accusations, is extremely questionable. In the first place, they were never intended to be printed; in the next place, they are all one-sided; and in the third, many of them are susceptible of explanations and refutations, which the correspondence, of course, does not supply. In the following passage we have a significant example of the recklessness with which he brought charges against individuals, which he afterwards discovered to be entirely unfounded. An article he had written about the Duke of Wellington came back to him in proof with certain alterations and additions, and he immediately wrote to Gifford, protesting against the interpolations, which he at once ascribed to Croker. Writing to his friend, Mr. Bedford, he says:—

"It is not unlikely that I may offend Croker by the manner in which (without alluding to him) I have pointed out the impolicy and injustice of his interpolations. If it be so, so it may be. He may say what he pleases in his own person, and call black white if he likes it, but it is presuming too much to do this in mine."

Shortly afterwards he writes to another friend:—

"I had no opportunity, when last we met, to tell you what has passed concerning the 'Quarterly Review.' In consequence of my letter to Gifford, which you saw, I found that the interpolations came from no less a personage than the Duke himself, who thought proper, through Croker, to make me his tool. I spoke as became me upon the occasion; insisted upon stopping the press, carried my point, struck out the falsehoods which had been inserted, and replaced what had been struck out."

Now in this case we get at the truth, because Southey found that the charge was false, and happened incidentally to set it right in a subsequent letter; but how many false charges may remain uncontradicted we have no means of ascertaining, and are cast, by such examples of rash temperament as this, upon the necessity of distrusting all similar assertions.

The great grievance he complains of against the 'Quarterly,' is that the editor altered his articles. The question involved in this grievance is one of peculiar difficulty, and cannot be settled by looking at it exclusively from the contributor's point of sight. There is something more to be considered than the sensibility or speciality of the writer of articles. The editor is responsible for the tone of the whole work—its unity of purpose and general execution; and he must exercise his judgment accordingly. If he is not invested with adequate authority and control within reasonable limits, what becomes of his responsibility? And what would become of any periodical that pretended to reflect or influence opinion, if every contributor to its pages were permitted to have his own way?

Out of this complaint of Southey's has come an inference that the violence and savagery, so conspicuous in some of his political papers, are to be referred to Gifford or Croker, who infused their own party bile into his otherwise temperate articles. But, whoever reads these letters will find that Southey was quite equal to either of them in the art of slashing and slaughter. Speaking of a criticism he had written on Lord Nugent's 'Life of Hampden,' he says:—

"I have brought into notice the remarkable fact that only one of Hampden's speeches has been preserved: that in that speech he twice makes the most solemn and explicit profession of passive obedience, and this at the very time when his 6000 friends and neighbours were arraying themselves to march to London, and offer their services to the Parliament! I have thus proved him to have been a hypocrite and a liar."

And when Lord Nugent replied to this onslaught, Southey prepared an answer, which he describes in these terms:—

"Not being of an irritable temper, and being in this case so completely in the right, that if I were, it would be absurd to feel the slightest sense of anger, when there is such consciousness of strength, I deal with him coolly and quietly. Nevertheless, the exposure will be such that I am almost sorry for him. Many a man has hanged himself for less."

The dead Hampden is denounced as a hypocrite and a liar, and his living defender is so overwhelmed with contumely, that, if he be as weak as some other men, there is a chance that he may hang himself.

It is clear from many passages of a like kind that Southey had implicit confidence in his power of abuse, and was unrelenting in its application. He hears that Lord Byron has sent over a dedication for 'Don Juan' to him and Lord Castlereagh; upon which he observes:—

"I have no intention at present of noticing it, if it sees the light; but if it should sufficiently provoke me, you may be assured that I will treat him with due severity, as he deserves to be treated, and lay him open, in a live dissection."

The dedication, however, if it really existed, never appeared; but the menace survives its withdrawal:—

"A fear of persecution from the one Robert is supposed to be the reason why it has been suppressed. Lord Byron might have done well to remember that the other can write dedications also; and make his own cause good if it were needful, in prose or rhyme, against a villain, as well as against a slanderer."

In another place he refers again to Lord Byron, and indicates the manner in which he is prepared to deal with him should the occasion arise:—

"If he compels me to engage with him again, I will brand him in such a manner as will exclude him from all society in England in which character is considered to be a necessary qualification. The truth is, he is desperate. He has (I know) sent over for publication things more atrocious than any which have yet appeared, and such as none but the *ames damnés* of the trade will venture to publish."

If such passages as these may be accepted as evidences of the "true character" of Southey, we need not trouble ourselves to inquire how much of the virulence of the 'Quarterly' was really attributable to Gifford or Croker.

The whole case in relation to the 'Quarterly' is complicated by inconsistencies. Southey appears to have been always indirectly quarrelling with the publisher and the

editor, and always directly keeping up a literary correspondence with them; always protesting in his private letters to others that he would write no more for it, yet always writing for it notwithstanding; always bitterly complaining of the ill-usage he received from its conductors, and always acknowledging that it paid him better than anything else; and so conscious was he, in the midst of this vituperation, of the advantages he derived from his connexion with it, that he continued, year after year, to contribute articles until—he got more profitable employment. It paid him better than any other engagement, until it was out-bid by the 'Cyclopædia,' and then he threw it up. No censure attaches to him for accepting better terms elsewhere; but it is humiliating to find him taking the pay of the 'Quarterly,' which he frequently speaks of as being highly liberal, and abusing its management to his friends at the same time.

We are compelled, indeed, very reluctantly, to come to the conclusion that this way of looking at matters of business was constitutional with him, and that here, at all events, we have a glimpse of his "true character," for we find him pursuing exactly the same course with reference to the 'Cabinet Cyclopædia,' which paid him the highest terms he ever received. He writes, in October, 1829:

"Dionysius Lardner applied to me for a 'History of England.' The terms which he offered were (if I remember rightly) 1000 guineas for two volumes. Had the sum been greater I would not have engaged in any undertaking in which a 'History of England' by me was to be coupled with a 'History of Ireland' by T. Moore, even if I had thought it fitting to appear in a 'Cabinet Cyclopædia' which came forth under the auspices of the London University."

While yet the reader is absorbed in profound admiration of the political morality which could not be tempted by 1000*l.*, or any larger sum, to write in a series produced under the auspices of the London University, and contaminated by the pen of Moore, he comes upon the following passage, written in the following January, less than three months afterwards:—

"He [Longman] has engaged me to write for his 'Cabinet Cyclopædia' a volume of naval history, in biographical form, for which he offered 750*l.*—the rate at which he pays Mackintosh and Scott. Murray, for his 'Family Library,' proposed to me a volume upon the 'York and Lancaster Wars,' and offered 300*l.*, which, of course, I rejected with as little hesitation as I afterwards accepted the offer from the Row."

In October he would not write a History of England at the rate of 500*l.* a volume, but in January he undertakes to write a Naval History of England at the rate of 750*l.* a volume. What had occurred in the interval to remove the original objections against Moore and the University? Nothing whatever, except that the temptation had been increased by 250*l.* a volume. But the marvel does not end here. In February, he enlarged his engagement, by taking in a sweep of biographies. It might be supposed that having entered into so profitable an arrangement, he would at least speak somewhat graciously of his new allies. They had not interpolated his articles, or as yet had any opportunity of ill-using him further than by pressing munificent payment upon his acceptance. Yet thus he writes in February:—

"Since I wrote to you I have engaged with Longman's Cabinet-maker (or, if you like a grander

name, Dionysius of Stinkomalee,) to write the lives of Sir Ph. Sidney, Spenser, Sir W. Davenant, Richardson, Fielding, and Chatterton."

Again, in the following month:—

"You know that I am engaged for a volume of 'Naval Biography' to Dionysius, Tyrant and Pedagogue, of Stinkomalee, and Cabinet-maker to Messrs. Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, and Green."

Again, in the same month, to another correspondent:—

"The great Johannes and I understood one another very well, thanks to Dionysius, the Tyrant of Stinkomalee. Instead of coming to the ground between two stools, I have got a comfortable cushion upon both."

Again, in May:—

"I am writing a Life of Sir Philip Sidney for Longman's Cabinet-maker, the Tyrant of Stinkomalee."

In writing to his private friends he takes the lofty style, and refers with a kind of sneering contempt to the people with whom he has made these profitable engagements, and there can be no doubt, indeed there is no doubt whatever, that all the while he held the very opposite language in his correspondence with these very people. If we did not desire to hope and believe that Southey was superior to such vulgarity of soul, we should fear that he was infested with Congreve's foible of wishing to be thought a fine gentleman amongst the Wynns and the Rickmans.

Of the publishers he seems to have entertained the worst possible opinion. He is always suspecting them of trade tricks and impositions. In one place, because Mr. Murray does not come round to his views on slavery, he suspects that he must be actuated by some base or interested motive; and in another he suspects that a fraudulent advertisement has been put out concerning the sale of 'Lalla Rookh,' to depreciate the market value of his own poems. This passage, with its irrepressible touches of vanity and egotism, is too characteristic to be omitted:—

"Between ourselves, I cannot help suspecting something very like a trick about the sale of Moore's poem; and the suspicion is not a comfortable one. A sixth edition of 'Lalla Rookh' is advertised in the course of eight months. 'Roderick,' in three years, is only in the fourth. Now, I am perfectly certain it is no feeling of vanity (and you know how I feel upon such subjects well enough to believe me) which makes me think there cannot, possibly, have been this difference in the sale. How, then, do I explain the fact? By an apprehension that there is a *ruse de guerre* in it,—a stratagem of that war which one bookseller carries on against another: that if I were to ask as large a sum for a poem as Moore has obtained, they might reply to me 'There is not the same sale to be expected.' And this they would support by title-pages, putting, probably, the name of a new edition to every 500, or possibly a smaller number, &c."

Of publishers in general, as a body, he does not disguise his distrust:—

"I am the worst person in the world to advise with upon any transactions with booksellers, having been engaged with them some thirty years, and having all that time been used by them like a goose, that is to say, plucked at their mercy. This, however, I can tell you, that, deal with them how you will, they will have the lion's share, and no one can find it answer to publish on his own account, except it be by subscription, when his friends will take some trouble to assist him."

We will not stop to discuss the justice of this wholesale crimination; but we may

throw a passing light upon its value, by observing that if there was a literary man in England who was bound to speak highly of the honour and liberality of publishers, it was the writer of this passage.

It is strange, in looking back over this correspondence, to trace the exploded prejudices and unsound doctrines held by Southey on the great political questions of the day, such as the freedom of the press, the progress of constitutional reform, and the Catholic question. Mr. Warter, in a pungent little note, solicits attention to the fact of how much Southey was ahead of his day; but it is impossible to read these letters without seeing how far he was behind it. The masses had already cast off the hollow traditions which he still vehemently maintained. Thus, with the reference to the press, he utterly condemns Fox's Libel Act, and still more the manner of enforcing the law in cases of libel:—

"So much time has been suffered to elapse between the commission of the offence and the trial (as in Hone's case) that the culprit has had full leisure to get up a theatrical defence, and the public feeling of indignation has been worn out, and subsided into indifference."

That is to say, he would have a man tried at once, under any circumstances, in the heat of party frenzy, to ensure a verdict, in preference to letting the fury of the hour subside, so that the case might be dispassionately heard on its merits. He was seriously convinced that the liberty of the press would ruin the country, and he thought that a man convicted a second time of a libel ought to be transported. There is no mistake about his opinions on this subject. The liberty of the press is not even disguised under the cant phrase of licentiousness:—

"In the present condition of the world, I am perfectly certain that no government can withstand the influence of a free press; the freedom of the press is incompatible with public security; and yet we know that the inevitable tendency of despotism is to degrade mankind, and that without the wholesome influence of the press, governments tend to despotism."

There is a little confusion here, but the purport is clear. Over and over again he exclaims, "We are under the tyranny of the press," and Ministers are wretches for not putting it down. Reform and Emancipation are carrying the kingdom rapidly to destruction, and the only question is, which will go first—Church or State. From the admission of Roman Catholics to power he predicts the most awful consequences, and heaps ashes on the head of Peel:—

"Grieve at the course of things I will not. My days will not be long in the land to see the consequences, and I have done my duty for its own sake. There will be a great emigration of Protestants from Ireland. They have been most basely betrayed. It is well for Mr. Peel that my picture cannot (like the one at Otranto) walk out of its frame. It would read him a lecture if it could! Did I not speak truly when I said, that in that man there was more Peel than Pith?"

No wonder that, with this terrible exodus before him, when a friend invites him on a visit to Ireland, he says he will postpone it till after the next rebellion.

Happily there are pleasanter topics in the book, and we will turn to them for a little relief from all this turmoil and controversy. The literary aspects of the work, cleared of politics, publishers, and money transactions, yield some agreeable gleanings. Of Southey's mode of working we have the following account:—

"It is always my custom to have a work long in my thoughts before it is taken actually in hand, and to collect materials, and let the plan digest while my main occupation is upon some other subject, which has undergone the same slow but necessary process. At present I am printing the 'History of the Peninsular War,'—a great work; and it is probable that this is not the only work which I shall bring out, before the 'Life of George Fox' becomes my immediate business. One great advantage arising from this practice is, that much in the mean time is collected in the course of other pursuits which would not have been found by a direct search; facts and observations of great importance frequently occurring where the most diligent investigator would never think of looking for them. The habit of noting and arranging such memoranda is acquired gradually, and can hardly be learnt otherwise than by experience."

This desultory method of collecting materials, and allowing a subject time for the mind to become familiarised with its features before executive labour has commenced, is especially valuable, and more or less unavoidable in the case of an author so multifarious as Southey. But with him it was, in fact, a matter of necessity, as he tells us in a subsequent letter:—

"I have (and am aware of having) a propensity for planning works 'of great pith and moment,' which leads me to dream of more than can ever be fulfilled; and secondly, that in pursuing any one of my determined engagements I am continually meeting with something applicable to other schemes not yet in course of execution; and in this way, while rearing one edifice, I collect materials for others. It is not with me as it would be if I had nothing to consider but how to employ my time, either most worthily or most agreeably to my own desires. While I have something before me to be pursued for its own sake, I must, of necessity, have something in hand for the ways and means of the year—something on the present sale of which I can rely. If I have many irons in the fire, one reason, therefore, is that there is a large pot to boil."

His principal time for work was at night:—

"Candle-light is the time upon which I reckon for getting through my needful labours, whatever they may be. Some little I do before breakfast. Immediately afterwards come Cuthbert's lessons; and the post generally brings me work enough for the remainder of the morning. By the time my despatches are made up the hour for exercise arrives, and out I go for a walk of from one to two hours, with a book in my hand, if the weather will permit; but be the weather what it may (snow excepted), out I go. We dine at four; I never remain at table after dinner, but retire to my room, and read till I am disposed to sleep; that sleep is perhaps the soundest and the most refreshing that I get. Tea is ready at six, and from then till half-past nine I am close at my desk. When I can call those three hours my own, sufficient for the day is the work thereof."

Amongst the literary celebrities of a past age with whom Southey was acquainted, one of the most remarkable was Miss Seward. He gives us a lively sketch of his introduction to her, she being at that time an old woman, still retaining her early vivacity, and he in the zenith of his reputation:—

"Miss Seward's was an easy mistake for any one who had never considered where the scene of Mason's tragedy was laid, and found herself at Harewood. She had a great deal of natural ardour, though it was often expressed in so artificial a way that it had the appearance of affected enthusiasm. I once passed two days at her house, having known her before only by letters. A lady with whom I was very intimate, and who had a quick sense of the ludicrous, carried me to her door, and was present at the introduction. Miss Seward lived in the bishop's palace, a venerable

old house, such as you might suppose a bishop's to be that had not been much, if at all, altered since Queen Anne's days. I was received on the wide oak staircase, which came down to the hall door, by one of the minor canons, a person whose short manner and speech savoured more of such characters as Ben Jonson used to conceive than of anything in real life. He, after some rapturous welcomes of such ridiculous solemnity that they put my good manners upon the rack to sustain them without laughing, ushered me into the presence. Miss Seward was at her writing-desk; she was not far short of seventy, and very lame in consequence of frequent accidents to one of her knees. Her head-dress was quite youthful, with flowing ringlets: more beautiful eyes I never saw in any human countenance; they were youthful, and her spirit and manners were youthful too; and there was so much warmth, and liveliness, and cordiality, that, except the ringlets, everything would have made you forget that she was old. This, however, was the impression with which I left her. The first scene was the most tragic-comic or comico-tragic that it was ever my fortune to be engaged in. After a greeting, so complimentary that I would gladly have insinuated myself into a nut-shell, to have been hidden from it, 'she told me that she had that minute finished transcribing some verses upon one of my poems,—she would read them to me, and entreated me to point out anything that might be amended in them.' I took my seat, and, by favour of a blessed table, placed my elbow so that I could hide my face by leaning it upon my hand, and have the help of that hand to keep down the risible muscles, while I listened to my own praise and glory set forth, in sonorous rhymes, and declared by one who read with theatrical effect. Opposite to me sat my friend Miss Barker, towards whom I dared not raise an eye, and who was in as much fear of a glance from me as I was of one from her."

Of Lockhart we have the following scrap. Southey did not like him at first, but afterwards came to have a better opinion of him, although, as might be expected, he never became reconciled to his editorship:—

"With regard to Lockhart, though very much prepossessed against him by everything that I had heard, and by what I knew of the way in which he became editor, my intercourse with him has disposed me to like him, and to suppose that, if opportunity were favourable, I could become intimate with him, as far as inclination on my side could go. But I do not think he is a safe editor. I do not think there is root enough in his principles."

There are several allusions to Caroline Bowles, from which we select an outline character of her written in 1827:—

"She lives near Lymington, in a house which is her own for life, and on her demise falls to the estate of the late Bishop of Winchester. Her health is so bad, and her bodily frame so frail, that you would suppose her to be on the brink of the grave. She is as clever with her pencil as with her pen, and has a talent for caricature drawing, which, if she had been mischievously inclined, would have made her a very formidable person. If you come here again (as you have held out a hope to us), I will show you a specimen of her talents in this way, and also a drawing of herself, her old nurse, and the old dog with whom her verses have made you acquainted. The old woman is sitting in the porch; she has her head on the nurse's lap, and the dog is lying upon her feet. It is a pen-and-ink drawing; and as these are all three likenesses, I value it very highly. She is now about eight or nine-and-thirty, living entirely alone, and with a heart very much weaned from this world, yet cheerful when in society, and altogether one of the most estimable and excellent persons whom I have ever known. The late Sir Harry Burrard was her uncle, and, I suspect, was to have stood in another degree of relationship to her, if the battle of Corunna had not put an end to all

her dreams of life. She has never expressly told me this, but that it was so I have no doubt; and if you look for some lines of mine in the 'Souvenir' for 1826, they will carry with them some interest when you know this."

With the materials in his possession, Mr. Warton, had he limited the collection to two volumes instead of four, might have produced a very readable and delightful work; as it is, the space occupied by trivial matters and personal details of no public interest, renders the publication inexpressibly wearisome, and throws upon the reader the labour which ought to have been performed for him, of winnowing the grain from the chaff. One of the consequences of inserting such a multitude of letters indiscriminately, is the frequent repetition of the same trifling things related, often in the same words, to different correspondents. The most ardent spirit must at last become languid under such an infliction. It is needless to say how incompetently the editorial task has been performed. There is scarcely any evidence of the hand of the editor throughout. The notes are few and scanty, and furnish little or no information upon the multitude of names and allusions that occur in the text, the main points to which the editor's attention should have been directed. All he can tell us, for example, of Mrs. Hughes, the friend of Scott, and one of the most memorable women of her time, is that she was "the excellent mother" of John Hughes; and in another place he asks the reader a question he should have answered himself.

Eleonore; and other Poems. By Hamilton Aïd. Chapman and Hall.

St. Bartholomew's Day, a Summer's Tale; and other Poems. By Stewart Lockyer. Saunders and Otley.

Adventures of a Summer-Eve. By William G. T. Barter. Low, Son, and Co.

Carmagnola; an Italian Tale of the Fifteenth Century. A Poem in Five Cantos. Saunders and Otley.

Harp of Æolus: Fugitive Poems. By Thomas Pentecost. West.

DURING the last two seasons the spirit of the war has naturally tinged the poetical works of the time, as it has other departments of literature. Although little has been produced worthy of the themes, the amount of verse poured forth on Alma and Balaklava, Inkermann and Sebastopol, has been prodigious. The thoughts and rhymes of our minor minstrels have again resumed their flow in more peaceful and normal channels, as the subjects of the volumes at the head of this notice indicate, though some of them contain odes and verses on the recent topics of absorbing interest.

'Eleonore,' a lyric poem, in five cantos, is a tale or legend of Gascony, at the time when the lingering feudalism of that remote district was passing away before the new order of things introduced by the French Revolution. The story is interesting, and the author gives additional character to the poem by descriptions of local customs, and allusions to historical events connected with the scenes in which it is laid. Gaston, the hero of the tale, belongs to the proscribed race of the Cagots, against whom popular prejudice and hatred continued strong until the commencement of the present century. The individuality of the race is now merged in the surrounding population, as was nar-

rated in the notice of a recent book of travels in the Pyrenees, (*ante*, p. 470.) The love of Gaston and Eleonore, the daughter of a Gascon noble, forms the romance of the tale, of the poetry of which the following descriptive passages are specimens. The first introduces Eleonore:—

"Some eighty years ago, before
The hills of Gascony had rung
With other sounds than huntsman's blast,
Chasing down forest-paths, the boar,
And shots at wild birds wheeling past;—
While men to feudal rights yet clung,
And the old system slept its last;
And all was peace—or seem'd—between
The over-bearing banner's sheen
On castle-wall, and thin blue wreath
Of smoke, from the village roofs beneath—
There stood a house in Gascony;
(It stands there yet, may be), behind
A sweep of purple-mantling hills,
Their sharp folds knotted 'gainst the sky,
While others, sloping down, in rills
Of vineyard greenness 'neath them wind,
Into the wide and rich champaign,
Buddy with upturn'd earth; and gold
Or purple-streakt, with vetch and grain:—
An ancient house, most desolate;
In-garden'd by espalier'd wall,
Where over none might spy; and all
Standing alone among the fields.
Here grew young Eleonore, a sad
Uncared-for child, to girl's estate,
'Mong dusty banners, swords, and shields,
And little company beside.
The Count de Vaux, her father, had
No other child: they lived together,
With the old Countess Anne, his mother,
Caged in, with poverty and pride. . . .
All gone, save these few roads—made away,
Years back, at court, by the Count, in play;
Who, since his gentle helpmate died,
Swept time away in sports of hand.
And horse; leaving to grow all wild
His roscud in the unweeded ground,
His only child!
No knowledge had she of a fond
Mother's embrace; and all she knew
Of the large world that lay beyond
That terraced wall, her fancy drew
From ballads old, and tale she read,
By moonlight, stealthily in bed."

In the latter part of the poem, the storm of the Revolution has swept over the land, Gaston, having returned to the old château, finds Eleonore, and describes to her the terrible scenes he had witnessed and taken part in at Paris. When driven away formerly by the pride of the family, he had resolved to go to America, but the outbreak of the Revolution detained him, and the bitterness of his own wrongs impelled him to fierce energy in the cause of liberty and equality. Eleonore is persuaded to fly with him, and a child is born to them. Gaston, who belongs to the Girondist party, perishes during the Reign of Terror. Eleonore lived to see her son enter the army in the time of the First Consul. The story thus far is supposed to be narrated to the author by an aged Gascon neighbour, who remembered the flight of the young lovers, and then concludes by telling with pride the career of their son, till he returned in better days to the land of his ancestors:—

"The boy's fair brow,
Dusken'd on Egypt's burning sands,
Had earn'd, in the Great Captain's bands,
A crown unto itself—a glory,
By the light of which men read his name,
In this hereafter-time. The flame,
That burn'd in his ancestral Goth,
(Or Saracen, no matter which),
Yet unextinguish'd in the Frank,
Shot sparks along the buoyant froth
Of the young hero's spirit. So
He rose in honour, fame, and rank:
And from the ravaged Lombard plain,
From Moscow's fire, and blood-stain'd snow,
In the lapse of war, return'd again,
And again, across the blue-peak'd hills,
Down to the little bay, that fills
The ripple of a tideless sea,
There to her village hostelry;
And standing 'mong the ferns and heath,
Beside those quiet mountain-graves,
With thoughts on the true hearts beneath,
His soul more brave and constant grew,
To battle with Life's crested waves;

As though, through all the foaming blue,
He felt their loving hands, that drew
Him up, unto the peaceful shore,
Which they have reacht—and weep no more!"

Nearly half of the volume is occupied with minor pieces, some of which have merit, but if the writer had devoted the time spent in their composition to the elaboration of the larger poem, he might have made it a work more worthy of lasting reputation. As it is, we prefer it to most poems of the class that have lately appeared.

THE story of St. Bartholomew's Day is, in its bare narrative, so fraught with tragic interest, that little is gained by a poetical version. Episodes of the massacre might supply themes for the dramatist, and Mr. Lockyer throws into his poem some dramatic spirit in the love and fate of the Catholic Merville and the Huguenot Marie, from whose eyes gospel light beamed upon her lover. Instead of quoting portions of the longer poem, we give one of the minor pieces entire, a favourable specimen of the author's inventive fancy and descriptive skill:—

"BURNHAM BEECHES.—A REVERIE.

"Above, blue cloudless heaven! and beneath,
Green fragrant grass, softer than cushion'd seat,
Sparkling with silver daisies, purple heath,
The clustered orchis, and the harebell sweet!
But what around? what are ye forms so wild,
So mystic, glooming o'er the landscape mild?"

"Like heaven-punish'd Titans ye do seem,
With stiften'd silence frozen to the core;
Like brine-left rocks, on which the tide shall gleam,
And slimy seaweed gather never more!
I scarce could think ye trees, ye ghostly band,
But for your quivering leaves by faint airs fann'd."

"Awestruck I gaze upon your garled roofs,
And huge gray limbs, to which there yet remains
Much youthful vigour; still ye shed your fruits,
Still the sap courses through your aged veins;
For on your mighty trunks, though scared and wan,
Time doth but what his scythe, then passes on."

"O! here, where withered leaves do ever lie,
And sadly carpet o'er the mossy ground,
Like thoughts that drew an old man's memory—
Here, where the dreamy silence hums around,
Strange things have happened, strange things ye have seen,
Old trees, beneath your battlements of green!"

"Had ye but tongues, what marvels ye could tell,
What wondrous scenes in your sole presence played—
What deeds of guilt in secret twilight told—
What tales of mirth and joy in sunny glade!
Men may not know the fearful mysteries
Which ye do whisper to the careless breeze."

"Men may not know them, but what laws can bind
The nimble flight of Fancy? she doth spring
Off to the secret storehouse of the mind,
And swift as Ariel doth return, and bring
Dim, thought-created phantoms in her train,
And fills the forest with old shapes again."

"There I behold, as in some magic glass,
Peopled by wizard's dark unhallow'd toil,
The Saxon swineherd couch'd upon the grass,
While his charge, grunting, seek the beechy spoil;
And with glad pride his little son doth try
His new-shaped bow in infant archery."

"And see! down yonder path, all bright array'd,
Crushing the ferns with gaily ambling pace,
Rides, glistening with alternate light and shade,
The haughty Norman noble to the chase,
With vassal train—and the wide woods resound
Once more with clang of horn, and bay of hound."

"Now, to and fro upon the spangled green,
Strange, mediæval shapes do come and go,
In quaint garbed undulation, like those seen
In some old hall, when autumn gusts do blow,
And shiver the dim arras: king and knight,
Stout burgher, shaven monk, and damsel bright."

"And in the sunshine, in despondent ease,
Sad lovers carve dear names upon the bark;
And stealthy as a serpent, 'mongst the trees,
Glides the assassin from his business dark,
Leaving behind, upon the turfy floor,
Still, prostrate form, and grass-blades black with gore."

"Deep in yon hollow trunk, with hardships worn,
Weaken'd with wounds, harass'd with constant fear,
With dew-rust arms, and garments stain'd and torn,
Crouches the wan, close-hunted Cavalier,
Munching the food kind hands bestowed so well,
And list'ning ever for the bloodhound's yell."

"And, oh! the broken hearts that groan and sob,
Whose hidden woes may not be known to me,
And, oh! the joyous ones, whose quicken'd throbs
Is pulsed by happy love, or childish glee,
With mirthful cheek, or strange and haggard eye,
Still glide they past in startling phantasy."

"Ah! wondrous visions! would that ye might stay
For one brief moment more—it may not be!
Life, hope, joy, pain, themselves do pass away,
Must not their shadows also fade and flee?
So! they are gone—trees stern, deformed, and rude,
I am alone with you and solitude!"

MR. BARTER'S poem is an ambitious effort, but such might be expected from a writer who has translated into English verse the whole of Homer's 'Iliad,' and so been long in the presence of greatness. When we say that the 'Adventures of a Summer-Eve' took place in a dream, an account of the details of what took place will not be expected. The argument of one of the six books of which the poem consists will sufficiently indicate its strain. It is headed *The Poet's Elysium*, whither the author is conducted in an aerial flight, under the guidance of the Spirit of Criticism, sister to the Spirit of Poesy. Book Second having described the aerial voyage, the Third has these contents:—

"Arrival in the planet *Hermes*. The voyagers quit the Car and journey on foot towards the Elysium. They reach a mountain range. Different aspects of the hither and farther sides. Prospect from the summit. Effect of the Spirit's presence on the creatures they met in their descent. The Winged Invisibles, and what they sang. The shore of the Phrenic Ocean, and what means of crossing it are found there. The Nereids and their song. The Genesis of Poesy. Landing in the Island where lies the Poets' Paradise embosomed in the Phrenic Ocean. The Bay of Phrontis. Ascending the River *Mnemonia*, and through what kind of country. They see Shakespeare walking on the bank, and get out and join him. Discourse on Poesy and its prospects and scope. The Convict's Mother. A Banquet of Bards proclaimed for sunset in honour of the Spirit's arrival. Cervantes and the Poet of the *Cid*, whose history Cervantes relates."

The Banquet of Bards is described in the sixth book, one of the intervening cantos being occupied with a variety of subjects befitting the comprehensive title of *The Hall of Visions*. After giving gorgeous sketches of the banquet hall, and the ambrosia and nectar, and other essentials of the feast, the poem proceeds:—

"Nor fed in silence they, but merry word,
And silvery ringing laugh was often heard,
And jest and bright-wing'd thought from that blithe crew
In flashes like the summer-lightning flew.
As appetite lost edge the banquet they prolong
With that which kindly crowneth feast, immortal harp and song."

As arbiter sat high *Mæonides*,
And poesy, as might to such belong,
He summon'd up, my Spirit-guide to please,
Yea swans of poesy, sweet-voic'd, of pinions strong."

So summon'd Chaucer harp in hand arose
And of *Arctite* and *Palamon* had sung
Chivalric tale, or patient sweet *Griseld*
So priz'd of all, but at potential voice
Of *Milton*, whose dear asking none denied,
He finish'd what he left half told—
The story of *Cambuscan* bold,
Of *Canball* and of *Algarsife*,
And who had *Canace* to wife
That own'd the virtuous ring and glass;
And of the wondrous horse of *brass*;
On which the Tartar king did ride."

And when he ended had the wondrous song
The universal voice of all that throng
Swell'd through the Hall in plaudits loud and long."

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Though but a little, what I heard so well
 And that sweet ravishment somewhat renew,
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 That fix'd his soul when he not heard us call,
 And Wordsworth what he brooded at the waterfall.
 But those wing'd songs fly to and fro
 Like birds of Paradise there where they grow,
 But cage them we may not and bring them here below.
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 To things I may. And this of note I saw,
 How high in honour held of all was one
 Of mixed ore, but yet of very gold,
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 That sweetest lay of 'Cottar's' ingle-nook
 And week's-end solemn pause of peasant's toil,
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The best pieces in the volume are those which relate to the rural life and scenery of the south of England, which have merit of descriptive truth, if not of literary art. A characteristic portrait of the author in his shirt-sleeves forms the frontispiece of the book.

Tenby: A Sea-Side Holiday. By Philip Henry Gosse, A.L.S. Van Voorst.

Now that the season is drawing near when newly-fledged naturalists repair to the sea-side for a little shore dredging, it may be well to call attention to Mr. Gosse's lively and very instructive epistolary narrative of a six weeks' holiday at Tenby. To the majority of visitors at watering-places the sea presents little of intellectual attractiveness. It suggests the enjoyment of idleness in its most luxurious form, refreshed by invigorating breezes, with little thought of the wonderful varieties of minute forms of animal life that are in busy activity at every step, and of the admirable lessons they convey. Mr. Gosse finds a lesson for every hour. When not exploring tide-pools or searching cavernous excavations in the rocks, or turning over stones, or thrusting his mandibles into crevices, he is working with his microscope at home, and all this is varied with what he calls scenery-huntings and road-pryings. Among the more favoured of his subjects in the present volume are the Great Rhizostome, a gigantic Medusa, about two feet in height, which he kept alive for a time in a large bath, and the Stag's-horn Polype, of both of which animals very excellent coloured figures are given. The minute larvæ of the Cirripeds, which pass in their course through such curious transformations, are described in much detail and figured; and the Sea Urchins, Rotifera, and Sponges have each a chapter to themselves. As an example of cavern searching let us accompany the author to St. Catherine's:—

"These three days past I have spent, or at least that portion of each that included the lowest condition of the tide, in exploring the perforated caverns of St. Catherine's. I have found their zoological riches fully to bear out the laudatory testimony which I have before mentioned to you: indeed, I have not met with any part of our coast which can compare with these caves, in affording a treat to the marine naturalist.

"I will endeavour to describe them to you in detail, though you may be sure that it was not until my curiosity was in some degree satiated, that I could make these leisurely notes. However, I think I have pretty well ransacked them by this time, and rich are the *spolia optima* with which they have replenished my vases.

"The tunnels are three in number, all at the western end of the isle, and all following the same general direction, penetrating from south to north. I shall, in describing them, call the south extremity the entrance, and the north the exit.

"When the tide has about an hour and a half to fall, we can pass dry-shod round the western point, and find ourselves on a plain of smooth firm sand. The first cavern yawns before us, narrow and comparatively low, a fissure with perpendicular and parallel sides. We enter, and proceeding a little way, find the course almost cut off by pro-

jecting perpendicular groins, leaving only a passage along the left wall, just wide enough to allow a person to glide through. Few persons pass beyond this point, because the narrowest part is occupied by a pool more than knee-deep, which remains always after the tide has receded. If we wade this, however, we come into a wider chamber and emerge.

"The sides of this fissure afford plenty of entertainment to the naturalist. The white shells of the Dogwinkle (*Purpura lapillus*) stud the rocky walls both within and without, in hundreds, and multitudes of the elegant vase-like egg capsules of the same species may be seen clustered about. The Smooth Anemone (*Actinia mesembryanthemum*) is also scattered over the bristling points, and adhering to the walls, glossy and plump, like some ripe pulpy fruit, tempting the eye and the mouth. Great tracts are completely covered with Acorn Shells (*Balanus balanoides*), the individual shells forced by mutual pressure into angular forms, and drawn out to a great length in proportion to their diameter. These are all as still as death now, but on the return of the tide they open their valves, and leap into activity and life. Low down, partly within the water, and partly left dry, the rock, barnacles, and all, are fringed with what look, when out of water, exactly like the wetted matted locks of a white poodle-dog that has just had a bathe. These shaggy locks are by no means attractive in their present appearance; and, characteristic as they are of these caverns, probably few persons are aware either of their nature or of their beauty under other circumstances. They are, however, Hydroid Polypes of exquisite delicacy, principally of the genus *Laomedea*. Two species occur in this and the other caves in profuse abundance, *L. geniculata* and *L. dichotoma*; the former aggregated in the dense shaggy tufts already mentioned, rarely exceeding two inches in length, and for the most part simple or very slightly branched; the latter forming tiny, slender shrubs, greatly branched, but of the most delicate tenuity, and five or six inches in length.

"A few yards beyond this fissure is the second cavern, one of more pretension. At the entrance it is about twenty-five feet high and ten wide, but the other end is narrower and lower. As soon as you are well within the cave, on looking up you see that the roof is perforate; a narrow shaft or chimney, rugged and irregular, piercing through the solid rock to the air and light above. The lower end of this shaft has several openings into the roof, narrow arches of rock being projected across.

"In the middle the cavern dilates, and branches off into a secondary chamber on the east side. Here you mount on a smooth and slippery ledge, and discover a little tide-pool in a rocky basin, so perfectly transparent, and so motionless, that you cannot see the water-line in the dim light; and it is only by putting down your hand to feel, or by reasoning from the appearance of the living contents, that you can persuade yourself it is a pool at all. All round the margins and smooth sides of the basin, under water, grow numerous and fine specimens of the Stag's-horn Sponge-polype (*Alcyonium hirsutum*). These are so characteristic of the pool (scarcely another object of any kind being found there, no sea-weeds, nor even a zoophyte, or scarcely one), and so remarkable, as at once to claim attention. They have much of the aspect of a sponge, being downy, growing in irregular rounded masses, and of a sub-pellucid yellowish-olive hue; but to the feel the substance more solid and fleshy, something between jelly and cartilage. It is frequently three or four inches in length, springing from a minute point of attachment, and much branched or lobed, so as to present a close resemblance to a deer's horn. I shall take occasion to speak again of the phenomena which this curious substance presents under closer examination, and of its interesting parasites; I content myself with alluding at present to what may be observed on the spot of its nativity.

"In the same side-chamber, but seated in an inner recess still more obscure, is another pool of

rated in the notice of a recent book of travels in the Pyrenees, (*ante*, p. 470.) The love of Gaston and Eleonore, the daughter of a Gascon noble, forms the romance of the tale, of the poetry of which the following descriptive passages are specimens. The first introduces Eleonore:—

"Some eighty years ago, before
The hills of Gascony had rung
With other sounds than huntsman's blast,
Chasing down forest-paths, the hour,
And shots at wild birds wheeling past:—
While men to feudal rights yet clung,
And the old system slept its last;
And all was peace—or seem'd—between
The over-bearing banner's sheen
On castle-wall, and thin blue wreath
Of smoke, from the village roofs beneath—
There stood a house in Gascony;
(It stands there yet, may be), behest
A sweep of purple-mantling hills,
Their sharp kids knotted 'gainst the sky,
While others, sloping down, in hills
Of vineyard greenness 'neath them wind,
Into the wide and rich champaign,
Boddy with upturn'd earth; and gold
Or purple-streakt, with vetch and grain:—
An ancient house, most desolate;
In-garden'd by espalier'd wall,
Where over none might spy: and all
Standing alone among the fields.
Here grew young Eleonore, a sad
Uncared-for child, to girl's estate,
'Mong dusty banners, swords, and shields,
And little company beside.
The Count de Vaux, her father, had
No other child: they lived together,
With the old Countess Anne, his mother,
Caged in, with poverty and pride. . . .
All gone, save these few rooms—made away,
Years back, at court, by the Count, in play;
Who, since his gentle helpmate died,
Swept time away in sports of hound
And horse; leaving to grow all wild
His rosebud in the unweeded ground,
His only child!
No knowledge had she of a fond
Mother's embrace; and all she knew
Of the large world that lay beyond
That terraced wall, her fancy drew
From ballads old, and tale she read,
By moonlight, stealthily in bed."

In the latter part of the poem, the storm of the Revolution has swept over the land, Gaston, having returned to the old château, finds Eleonore, and describes to her the terrible scenes he had witnessed and taken part in at Paris. When driven away formerly by the pride of the family, he had resolved to go to America, but the outbreak of the Revolution detained him, and the bitterness of his own wrongs impelled him to fierce energy in the cause of liberty and equality. Eleonore is persuaded to fly with him, and a child is born to them. Gaston, who belongs to the Girondist party, perishes during the Reign of Terror. Eleonore lived to see her son enter the army in the time of the First Consul. The story thus far is supposed to be narrated to the author by an aged Gascon neighbour, who remembered the flight of the young lovers, and then concludes by telling with pride the career of their son, till he returned in better days to the land of his ancestors:—

"The boy's fair brow,
Dusken'd on Egypt's burning sands,
Had earn'd, in the Great Captain's bands,
A crown unto itself—a glory,
By the light of which men read his name,
In this hereafter-time. The flame,
That burn'd in his ancestral Goth,
(Or Saracen, no matter which),
Yet unextinguish'd in the Frank,
Shot sparks along the buoyant froth
Of the young hero's spirit. So
He rose in honour, fame, and rank:
And from the ravaged Lombard plain,
From Moscow's fires, and blood-stain'd snow,
In the lap of war, return'd again,
And again, across the blue-peak'd hills,
Down to the little bay, that fills
The ripple of a tideless sea,
There to her village hostelry;
And standing 'mong the ferns and heath,
Beside those quiet mountain-graves,
With thoughts on the true hearts beneath,
His soul more brave and constant grew,
To battle with Life's crested waves;

As though, through all the foaming blue,
He felt their loving hands, that drew
Him up, unto the peaceful shore,
Which they have reach'd—and weep no more!"

Nearly half of the volume is occupied with minor pieces, some of which have merit, but if the writer had devoted the time spent in their composition to the elaboration of the larger poem, he might have made it a work more worthy of lasting reputation. As it is, we prefer it to most poems of the class that have lately appeared.

The story of St. Bartholomew's Day is, in its bare narrative, so fraught with tragic interest, that little is gained by a poetical version. Episodes of the massacre might supply themes for the dramatist, and Mr. Lockyer throws into his poem some dramatic spirit in the love and fate of the Catholic Merville and the Huguenot Marie, from whose eyes gospel light beamed upon her lover. Instead of quoting portions of the longer poem, we give one of the minor pieces entire, a favourable specimen of the author's inventive fancy and descriptive skill:—

"BURNHAM BEECHES.—A REVERIE.

"Above, blue cloudless heaven! and beneath,
Green fragrant grass, softer than cushion'd seat,
Sparkling with silver daisies, purple heath,
The clustered orchid, and the harsell sweet!
But what around? what are ye ferns so wild,
So mystic, glooming o'er the landscape mild?
"Like heaven-punish'd Titans ye do seem,
With stiffen'd silence frozen to the core;
Like brine-left rocks, on which the tide shall gleam,
And slimy seaweed gather never more!
I scarce could think ye trees, ye ghostly band,
But for your quivering leaves by faint airs fann'd.
"Awestruck I gaze upon your gnarled roots,
And huge gray limbs, to which there yet remains
Much youthful vigour; still ye shed your fruits,
Still the sap courses through your aged veins;
For on your mighty trunks, though scarred and wan,
Time doth but whet his scythe, then passes on.
"O! here, where withered leaves do ever lie,
And sadly carpet o'er the mossy ground,
Like thoughts that strew an old man's memory—
Here, where the dreamy silence hums around,
Strange things have happened, strange things ye have seen,
Old trees, beneath your battlements of green!
"Had ye but tongues, what marvels ye could tell,
What wondrous scenes in your sole presence play'd—
What deeds of guilt in secret twilight dell—
What tales of mirth and joy in sunny glade!
Men may not know the fearful mysteries
Which ye do whisper to the careless breeze.
"Men may not know them, but what laws can bind
The nimble flight of Fancy? she doth spring
Off to the secret storehouse of the mind,
And swift as Ariel doth return, and bring
Dim, thought-created phantoms in her train,
And fills the forest with odd shapes again.
"There I behold, as in some magic glass,
Peopled by wizard's dark unhallow'd toil,
The Saxon swineherd couch'd upon the grass,
While his charge, grunting, seek the beechy spoll;
And with glad pride his little son doth try
His new-shaped bow in infant archery.
"And see! down yonder path, all bright array'd,
Crushing the ferns with gaily ambling pace,
Rides, glistening with alternate light and shade,
The haughty Norman noble to the chase,
With vassal train—and the wide woods resound
Once more with clang of horn, and bay of hound.
"Now, to and fro upon the spangled green,
Strange, mediæval shapes do come and go,
In quaint garbed undulation, like those seen
In some old hall, when autumn gusts do blow,
And shiver the dim arks: king and knight,
Stout burgher, shaven monk, and damsel bright.
"And in the sunshine, in despondent ease,
Sad lovers carve dear names upon the bark;
And stealthily as a serpent, 'mongst the trees,
Glides the assassin from his business dark,
Leaving behind, upon the turf floor,
Still, prostrate form, and grass-blades black with gore.
"Deep in yon hollow trunk, with hardihood worn,
Weaken'd with wounds, harass'd with constant fear,
With dew-rust arms, and garments stain'd and torn,
Crouches the wan, close-hunted Cavalier,
Munching the food kind hands bestowed so well,
And list'ning ever for the bloodhound's yell.
"And, oh! the broken hearts that groan and sob,
Whose hidden woes may not be known to me,
And, oh! the joyous ones, whose quicken'd throbs
Is puls'd by happy love, or childish glee,
With mirthful cheek, or strange and haggard eye,
Still glide they past in startling phantasy.

"Ah! wondrous visions! would that ye might stay
For one brief moment more—it may not be!
Life, hope, joy, pain, themselves do pass away,
Must not their shadows also fade and flee?
No! they are gone—trees stern, deformed, and rude,
I am alone with you and solitude!"

MR. BARTER'S poem is an ambitious effort, but such might be expected from a writer who has translated into English verse the whole of Homer's 'Iiad,' and so been long in the presence of greatness. When we say that the 'Adventures of a Summer-Eve' took place in a dream, an account of the details of what took place will not be expected. The argument of one of the six books of which the poem consists will sufficiently indicate its strain. It is headed *The Poet's Elysium*, whither the author is conducted in an aerial flight, under the guidance of the Spirit of Criticism, sister to the Spirit of Poesy. Book Second having described the aerial voyage, the Third has these contents:—

"Arrival in the planet *Hermes*. The voyagers quit the Car and journey on foot towards the Elysium. They reach a mountain range. Different aspects of the hither and farther sides. Prospect from the summit. Effect of the Spirit's presence on the creatures they met in their descent. The Winged Invisibles, and what they sang. The shore of the Phrenic Ocean, and what means of crossing it are found there. The Nereids and their song. The Genesis of Poesy. Landing in the Island where lies the Poets' Paradise embosomed in the Phrenic Ocean. The Bay of Phrontis. Ascending the River Mnemonesia, and through what kind of country. They see Shakespeare walking on the bank, and get out and join him. Discourse on Poesy and its prospects and scope. The Convict's Mother. A Banquet of Bards proclaimed for sunset in honour of the Spirit's arrival. Cervantes and the Poet of the Cid, whose history Cervantes relates."

The Banquet of Bards is described in the sixth book, one of the intervening cantos being occupied with a variety of subjects befitting the comprehensive title of *The Hall of Visions*. After giving gorgeous sketches of the banquet hall, and the ambrosia and nectar, and other essentials of the feast, the poem proceeds:—

"Nor fed in silence they, but merry word,
And silvery ringing laugh was often heard,
And jest and bright-wing'd thought from that blithe crew
In flashes like the summer-lightning flew.
As appetite lost edge the banquet they prolong
With that which crowneth feast, immortal harp and song.
As arbiter sat high Mæonides,
And poesy, as might to such belong,
He summon'd up, my Spirit-guide to please,
Yea swans of poesy, sweet-voic'd, of pinions strong.
So summon'd Chaucer harp in hand arose
And of Arcite and Palamon had sung
Chivalric tale, or patient sweet Griseld
So priz'd of all, but at potential voice
Of Milton, whose dear asking none denied,
He finish'd what he 'left half told—
The story of Cambuscan bold,
Of Canball and of Algarisfe,
And who had Canace to wile
That own'd the virtuous ring and glass;
And of the wondrous horse of brass;
On which the Tartar king did ride.
And when he ended had the wondrous song
The universal voice of all that throng
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The best pieces in the volume are those which relate to the rural life and scenery of the south of England, which have merit of descriptive truth, if not of literary art. A characteristic portrait of the author in his shirt-sleeves forms the frontispiece of the book.

Tenby: A Sea-Side Holiday. By Philip Henry Gosse, A.L.S. Van Voorst.

Now that the season is drawing near when newly-fledged naturalists repair to the sea-side for a little shore dredging, it may be well to call attention to Mr. Gosse's lively and very instructive epistolary narrative of a six weeks' holiday at Tenby. To the majority of visitors at watering-places the sea presents little of intellectual attractiveness. It suggests the enjoyment of idleness in its most luxurious form, refreshed by invigorating breezes, with little thought of the wonderful varieties of minute forms of animal life that are in busy activity at every step, and of the admirable lessons they convey. Mr. Gosse finds a lesson for every hour. When not exploring tide-pools or searching cavernous excavations in the rocks, or turning over stones, or thrusting his mandibles into crevices, he is working with his microscope at home, and all this is varied with what he calls scenery-huntings and road-pryings. Among the more favoured of his subjects in the present volume are the Great Rhizostome, a gigantic Medusa, about two feet in height, which he kept alive for a time in a large bath, and the Stag's-horn Polype, of both of which animals very excellent coloured figures are given. The minute larvæ of the Cirripeds, which pass in their course through such curious transformations, are described in much detail and figured; and the Sea Urchins, Rotifera, and Sponges have each a chapter to themselves. As an example of cavern searching let us accompany the author to St. Catherine's:—

"These three days past I have spent, or at least that portion of each that included the lowest condition of the tide, in exploring the perforated caverns of St. Catherine's. I have found their zoological riches fully to bear out the laudatory testimony which I have before mentioned to you: indeed, I have not met with any part of our coast which can compare with these caves, in affording a treat to the marine naturalist.

"I will endeavour to describe them to you in detail, though you may be sure that it was not until my curiosity was in some degree satiated, that I could make these leisurely notes. However, I think I have pretty well ransacked them by this time, and rich are the *spolia opima* with which they have replenished my vases.

"The tunnels are three in number, all at the western end of the isle, and all following the same general direction, penetrating from south to north. I shall, in describing them, call the south extremity the entrance, and the north the exit.

"When the tide has about an hour and a half to fall, we can pass dry-shod round the western point, and find ourselves on a plain of smooth firm sand. The first cavern yawns before us, narrow and comparatively low, a fissure with perpendicular and parallel sides. We enter, and proceeding a little way, find the course almost cut off by pro-

jecting perpendicular groins, leaving only a passage along the left wall, just wide enough to allow a person to glide through. Few persons pass beyond this point, because the narrowest part is occupied by a pool more than knee-deep, which remains always after the tide has receded. If we wade this, however, we come into a wider chamber and emerge.

"The sides of this fissure afford plenty of entertainment to the naturalist. The white shells of the Dogwinkle (*Purpura lapillus*) stud the rocky walls both within and without, in hundreds, and multitudes of the elegant vase-like egg capsules of the same species may be seen clustered about. The Smooth Anemone (*Actinia mæcrobryanthemus*) is also scattered over the bristling points, and adhering to the walls, glossy and plump, like some ripe pulpy fruit, tempting the eye and the mouth. Great tracts are completely covered with Acorn Shells (*Balanus balanoides*), the individual shells forced by mutual pressure into angular forms, and drawn out to a great length in proportion to their diameter. These are all as still as death now, but on the return of the tide they open their valves, and leap into activity and life. Low down, partly within the water, and partly left dry, the rock, barnacles, and all, are fringed with what look, when out of water, exactly like the wetted matted locks of a white poodle-dog that has just had a bath. These shaggy locks are by no means attractive in their present appearance; and, characteristic as they are of these caverns, probably few persons are aware either of their nature or of their beauty under other circumstances. They are, however, Hydroid Polypes of exquisite delicacy, principally of the genus *Laomedea*. Two species occur in this and the other caves in profuse abundance, *L. geniculata* and *L. dichotoma*; the former aggregated in the dense shaggy tufts already mentioned, rarely exceeding two inches in length, and for the most part simple or very slightly branched; the latter forming tiny, slender shrubs, greatly branched, but of the most delicate tenuity, and five or six inches in length.

"A few yards beyond this fissure is the second cavern, one of more pretension. At the entrance it is about twenty-five feet high and ten wide, but the other end is narrower and lower. As soon as you are well within the cave, on looking up you see that the roof is perforate; a narrow shaft or chimney, rugged and irregular, piercing through the solid rock to the air and light above. The lower end of this shaft has several openings into the roof, narrow arches of rock being projected across.

"In the middle the cavern dilates, and branches off into a secondary chamber on the east side. Here you mount on a smooth and slippery ledge, and discover a little tide-pool in a rocky basin, so perfectly transparent, and so motionless, that you cannot see the water-line in the dim light; and it is only by putting down your hand to feel, or by reasoning from the appearance of the living contents, that you can persuade yourself it is a pool at all. All round the margins and smooth sides of the basin, under water, grow numerous and fine specimens of the Stag's-horn Sponge-polype (*Aplysina hirsutum*). These are so characteristic of the pool (scarcely another object of any kind being found there, no sea-weeds, nor even a zoophyte, or scarcely one), and so remarkable, as at once to claim attention. They have much of the aspect of a sponge, being downy, growing in irregular rounded masses, and of a sub-pellucid yellowish-olive hue; but to the feel the substance is more solid and fleshy, something between jelly and cartilage. It is frequently three or four inches in length, springing from a minute point of attachment, and much branched or lobed, so as to present a close resemblance to a deer's horn. I shall take occasion to speak again of the phenomena which this curious substance presents under closer examination, and of its interesting parasites; I content myself with alluding at present to what may be observed on the spot of its nativity.

"In the same side-chamber, but seated in an inner recess still more obscure, is another pool of

similar dimensions and character. You must climb to a higher ledge, and stride over the former pool, in order to examine it, and then you will see nothing until your eyes are accustomed to the darkness, and without bringing your face as close as possible to the unruflled surface of the transparent water. Here I had the pleasure of seeing the Snowy-disked Anemone (*Actinia nivea*), a lovely little species, known to science only by a specimen or two which I found at Torquay, and described in my 'Devonshire Coast.' These caverns are its favourite home, the metropolis of the species; and though I shall presently allude to it in greater abundance when I come to speak of the third cavern, yet in this little retired rock basin, not a few of the delicate snowy blossoms are seen starring the interior.

"A beautiful Sponge (*Grania compressa*), resembling a number of small white sacks with open mouths, and with the sides pressed together, occurs here; interesting to the physiologist, as being the species in which Mr. Bowerbank discovered motory cilia, and thus set at rest the question of the animal character of the Sponges. The common Crumb-of-bread Sponge (*Halichondria panicea*) incrusts the rock with its yellow-brown mass, rising into mammillary eminences, miniature volcanoes vomiting forth, not ashes and liquid fire, but jets of water and clouds of fecal particles. In general, however, the sides of this cavern closely agree with those of the former in the character of their parasitic occupants.

"A fine view of the Castle Hill, looking across the cove, is obtained from the interior of this cavern; and one more limited, but perhaps more striking, from outside the entrance, looking through the perforation. The effect of the sunlight on the verdure of the hill, and on the sparkling sea, is heightened by the obscurity of the archway, like a bright picture set in a deep black frame.

"We return by the way we came, in order to enter the third cavern from the same side, viz., from the south. We are now near the middle of the island, standing before a perforation far more noble in all respects than the two preceding ones. The entrance is much loftier, wider, and more rugged, irregular, and picturesque. It is flanked by great projections of rough honeycombed rock, that resemble the propylæa of some august temple of old Egyptian architecture. We pass into the solemn fane, and find ourselves in a lofty chamber, which an immense rude pillar in the centre divides into a principal and a secondary gallery. Just in front of this column the roof, which is rudely vaulted, rises to the height (as well as I could estimate it) of about forty feet, and the width of the cavern is about thirty."

The luminosity of the ocean has often attracted the interest of naturalists:—

"Last night the water within the little harbour was splendidly luminous. No trace of light, however, appeared on the smooth surface; but when this was agitated, it blazed. The finest effect was produced by dashing a large stone down from the quay; every drop of spray that splashed up was luminous; and thus a momentary star of many irregular rays of light was made, some of the lines reaching to fifteen or twenty feet. At the same moment a great circular wave was raised, which took the appearance of a bank, or annular agger, most intensely lustrous, but so transient that the progression of the wave could not be traced: the light sank into darkness in an instant. The Bristol steamer was just on the point of starting; and an impatient stroke or two of her paddles now and then illuminated the dark water under her quarter; and the lowest step of the Quay stairs was every instant covered with sparks, like diamond dust, by the tiny wavelets that washed over it and rolled off.

"I ran home for a bottle and secured a dip. The *Noctiluca* was sufficiently abundant to account for the radiance; but there was also a singular creature even still more minute, in great numbers, which belongs to a genus enjoying a luminous reputation. It is a species of *Ceratomyxa*, one of the INFUSORIA,

not described, so far as I know. It is spindle-shaped, swelling into a globose form in the middle, and tapering off into a long spine at each extremity. A deep groove runs round the middle, the edges of which show ciliary action. The division which proceeds foremost in swimming has an accessory spine much shorter than the other, apparently jointed to it close to the groove, but pointing in the same direction. All the spines are straight. The two divisions may be compared to two valves of a shell, being firm, transparent, and resisting; their surface is delicately punctured or stippled. The contents are granular, and of a rich yellow.

"When alive these animalcules swim fast, with an uniform gliding motion, the single spine foremost, occasionally revolving on the longitudinal axis; and throwing about in all directions a flexible proboscis of excessive tenuity, two or three times the length of the whole body. This appears to proceed from an orifice in the shell (*lorica*), situated in the two-spined valve, not far from the ciliated groove. It appears like a waving line of light, whisked about with a lashing motion, and occasionally contracted into wrinkles, and apparently withdrawn into the shell.

"After death, every specimen that I examined protruded the internal parts, in globular vesicles of delicate subtlety, varying in size, which seemed to ooze out from apertures in the *lorica*. The animals averaged $\frac{1}{175}$ th of an inch in length, and $\frac{1}{350}$ th in width.

"It is probable that much of the phosphorescence last night may have been dependent on this animalcule. Ehrenberg says of *C. tripos*, a species which in some positions might be mistaken for this:—"The power of this creature to envelope light is placed beyond all doubt, as I took up nine phosphorescent drops, one after the other, from the water; and I saw nothing else in each than a single animalcule of this species."

Another luminous appearance, as beautiful of its kind, though less mysterious in its origin, gladdened the author's sight in one of his excursions.

"Night had already fallen,—a balmy summer night. After passing Pembroke, numbers of glow-worms, in the herbage of the hedge-banks, displayed their tiny lamps, as if they would perform, in a small way, their services as light-houses to us on our homeward voyage. They were the more pleasing to me, because it is many years since I have seen these interesting insects; though meanwhile I have been familiar with their more illustrious cousins—the fireflies of America and the tropics."

When we state that this book contains nearly 400 pages of such pleasant matter, with four- and twenty plates, having the figures for the most part drawn and coloured with a very original and striking effect on an intense black ground, our readers may understand that there is matter sufficient in the volume for the occupation of a long sea-side holiday, and for many more days of home reflection and study afterwards. But we must not be too laudatory of the author's labours. Mr. Gosse's style of writing is extremely pleasant, and has been much praised, but even he has his infirmities. The bathing machines of Tenby might very well have been passed without the following 'thalassine' sketch:—

"In the midst of the crowd stand a dozen of white bathing-machines, and the busy bathing-women—uncouth, uncorseted figures—in blue serge gowns with a fringe of rags below, are moving to and fro; while far off, within the verge of the breaking sea, the profane eye that dares wander in that direction, catches a glimpse of one of these brawny priestesses of Neptune offering a sacrifice to her divinity, in the shape of a slender figure with long sable robe and dishevelled hair. We cannot hear the shrieks, but we see with horror the arms dashed up in despair, as the help-

less victim is ruthlessly seized and plunged beneath the whelming wave.—We'll look no more; it is too dreadful! Let us turn from the thalassine immolation to other features of the scene."

The Sketcher. By the Rev. John Eagles, A.M., Oxon. Blackwood and Sons.

THIS elegant volume is a republication of essays which appeared, we believe, under the same title in the early numbers of 'Blackwood's Magazine.' The writer, Mr. John Eagles, was born at Bristol in 1784, and after an education at Winchester and Wadham College, Oxford, took holy orders, and officiated, first at St. Nicholas, Bristol, and afterwards at Halberton in Devonshire, Wintford near Bristol, and Kinersley in Herefordshire, successively. He died at Clifton in 1855. He was, as the name of the volume imports, an artist as well as a writer, and his life appears to have been very actively devoted to both these pursuits. The literary merits of the author will best appear from the extracts we have inserted below; his views upon art matters may also be extensively gathered from his writings. His peculiar theory and practice of landscape representation are described in a biographical sketch, which has been prefixed to the work by an anonymous and highly eulogistic editor. We are told that—

"His style was formed on the great Italian masters of landscape; amongst others, Gaspar Poussin and Salvator Rosa enjoying to the last his admiration and respect. He held that almost every beautiful scene in nature contained in itself many pictures, but that there existed generally one which was more living and forcible than the rest, which it was the business of the artistic eye to select and appropriate. He ever wished, if it were but by a few broad dashes and sweeping lines, to seize and secure on paper and canvass this soul of every scene. And what seemed confusion and carelessness to the eye of the observer in his execution when beheld near, at a greater distance grew into a wonderful harmony and symmetry, showing that his hand never moved without being guided by the instincts of order and of beauty."

Some allowance, no doubt, must be made in this and the following passages for those laudatory suggestions which are natural to every preface-writer; but when these have been duly deducted, there seems enough in Mr. Eagles's writings to show that he was an independent, sincere, and enlightened admirer of art, whatever may have been the success of his pencil. The following passage will best illustrate the peculiar tastes of the writer, and his manner of dealing with the subject he wishes to illustrate. He says:—

"Claude's successful attempts are not in his landscapes, but in his marine pieces. There lay his peculiar forte. Nothing can exceed the beauties of his marine pieces. His buildings, his figures, sea and sky, all are in exquisite accordance. All is poetical history. The grandest, perhaps, of this class is the *Embarkation of St. Ursula*; and I have one in my recollection, I know not to whom belonging, the *Burning of the Trojan Ships*. These pictures are really magnificent. They make vulgarity stand dumb. But they do not, strictly speaking, belong to landscape. In that department, though there is in Claude always a certain cast of elegance, and pastoral elegance, it is of an age long after the golden. If not actual everyday nature, there is but a slight aim above it; nor is there much knowledge of composition—the artificial composition of lines. In this he, and all other artists perhaps that ever existed, must yield the palm to Gaspar Poussin. Gaspar is, indeed, the only truly pastoral painter. Whatever his pencil

touches has an air of freedom; there is all the unrestrained beauty of nature. His foliage lies, or waves, as Anacreon would have his mistress's locks, 'as they will,' giving them life in volition. And who ever better understood the placid stream, the deep tarn, or mountain river, in its life and motion, from the first gushing, through all its course and rests? So his figures are all disengaged and free—are beings of leisure. They are of robust growth, natural vigour of limb and understanding, of a race sprung from the very woods and rocks, untamed and untameable to slave toil; no artificial elegance—the very reverse of the smirking, piping, cocked hat, and flowered shepherds of French crockery (how the artist must have detested them!) but all of the simple elegance of pastoral freedom and leisure, a part with and influenced by the whole scenery—not as if they commanded it, or could command it, or would twist aside the streams, or cut a twig in all their land. Even the peculiarity of undress is entirely appropriate. It makes them of the pastoral age, and such as never can belong to any other. Like their fraternal trees, they are not ashamed to show their rind. They live in no dressed paradise; all that is of the formal cast, as belonging to another beauty, that poetical painter rejects. All his pictures are, therefore, a just whole. Though he saw the beauty, as one who could be insensible to it, of the solemn cypress and pine, he would not overawe the simple youth and freedom of his foliage by their forbidding dictatorial cast. And it is remarkable that all his trees are in, or rather under than past, their vigorous growth. They are of youth and freshness, like the fabled in-dwelling wood-Nymph and Faun that never grow old. Scarce any have attained the girt of timber to invite the axe, that the most avaricious eye shall never calculate their top and lop. They have the life of pastoral poetry in themselves, and are therefore eternal in undying youth and vigour. And to make this his natural ideal perfect, nothing is introduced to disturb this serene life, unless, indeed, he paints a storm, and then, who ever tossed his foliage about like him, as if he were familiar with the winds, and knew all their ways, and played with and limited their power!—for you still see that there is but an occasional irruption of violence that will pass, to uproot and tear away perhaps some discordant objects, and that gentle Peace had but retired to the shelter of the shepherd's homes, and would again soon walk forth in uninjured beauty. But in the whole landscape, no too rugged form, and no awful sublimity, is introduced, to mar, as it may be termed, the natural ideal. Accessibility is a striking character in all his compositions. There is not a height or a depth unapproachable; and this accessibility is marked throughout, or carefully indicated, by path, or road, or building, or figure. The whole terrene is for the inhabitants, and the inhabitants for the terrene, and all are free 'to wander where they will.' The accessibility is perfect, and it is of a home character, for all the lines tend into the scene, none out. The paths entice you within, where you may eat of the lotus, and never dream of departure. Then, again, his architecture, since termed Poussinesque, is of the same free character, and which is, in fact, the great charm of Italian architecture;—(query, are the Italians indebted to the painters for it?)—all the lines, however varied, are in admirable consent, assisting each other, apparently unconfined by rule. Part seems added to part, not the one to match its opposite, but where utility may have directed; and hence the eye is presented with great variety, the horizontal and perpendicular lines of themselves being a sufficient contrast to the looser lines of foliage and rock,—and from this very variety, the more falling into, and forming a part of the ground on which the buildings are raised—and which union the formality of architecture would otherwise forbid:—and thus the very buildings, of no domineering pretensions, are appropriate to the land and its inhabitants; that land of recognised peace that lies between Fairy Land and our common working

world. Poussinesque buildings are the very perfection of landscape architecture."

We will not stay here to observe in how many points the above criticism will clash with the tastes that are fashionable at the present day. We all remember the vials of scorn and contempt that have been poured out upon Claude's figures and Gaspar's foliage. Mr. Eagles's remarks are essentially not critical, they are dissertational and expansive, but are not made with reference to the modes of thinking that were prevalent even in his own time. They bear the impress of the rural mind, which feeds upon its own vagaries and the prolific suggestions of natural scenery, uncorrected by the severer judgments which habits of close thinking induce. But the stream of the writer's observations, though it wanders "at its own sweet will," is never dull or troubled; on the contrary, it is always limpid and crystalline, frequently adorned with the flowers of poetic sentiment, and in many instances rising into a strain of high romantic beauty. Spenser, and the writers of his age, with the descriptive poets generally, seem to have been the staple of the author's intellectual diet; the abundant outpourings of his Muse are a perpetual echo of the sentiment of Amiens' song:—

"Under the greenwood tree,
Who loves to lie with me," &c.

The artistic aim of his writing, if such there be, is to apply to landscape those principles of word-painting which have since been so admirably employed for historical and descriptive purposes. Mr. Eagles attempts to sketch a Devonshire landscape, not in the actual water-colours of the palette, but in the figurative ones of the pen, mingled with allusions to literature, painting, and the kindred arts, during all the ages of their cultivation, with which these pages manifest the writer's habitual acquaintance. With all this, however, it must be owned that there are many pages which might have been well curtailed or omitted, with no great loss to the reader; many a vague speculation which will interest no one but the originator; many a piece of description so attenuated as to be vague and unsubstantial. The following, however, is no unfavourable specimen of the writer's art:—

"Imagine you are looking to the centre of the piece. You see down through a great depth of deep bluish-grey (yet blending with it so many colours, it is difficult to say what it is, but it is very dark, and perhaps blue-grey prevails); this shade gradually becomes lighter, as it approaches the sides of the picture, and loses itself on the right, where it is approached by a golden light of distant illuminated trees. The right is one of these ridges that separate the dells from each other; it has its receding parts, out of which grow large trees, part of the stems of which only are seen throwing themselves out in various directions, but more or less tending to the centre. This ridge terminates abruptly in rock, of no great depth, perhaps twenty feet, and is here broken into the foreground, which forms the passage through the dell. At the edge where the bluish depth described commences, is a fallen trunk stretching its length across, and gracefully throwing upwards the end towards the left; thus, in composition, uniting the two sides. But the line of the bank, or continuation of the foreground, runs down towards the left corner, over which, of a lighter colour, though falling into the deep grey, is a misty distance of wood, broken only by the stems of tall trees, that rise up boldly from it, and spread out their bending branches to the right; these are dark, but some light slender ones rise up, as it were seeking them, and insinuating their tendril-like boughs among the stronger

branches, all dropping with thick foliage, but playfully, and lightly edged. On the right there is a continuation of the rocky ridge into the central depth, where it is lost, but you see the continuation further marked by the tops of brown trees that evidently shoot from it below. Near the centre, the rock is rather abrupt, and out of it there grows a cluster of beautiful, graceful trees, one of which rises up light through the whole shade; and nearly half-way up its smooth and clean bole, it is strongly illuminated by a sunlight, the same which gilds the background, over the ridge towards the right. This tree, and the rock from which it grows, form the character of the picture; all else is excellent, but the more so, because it accords with that key to the sentiment. The rocks are just the colour to bring out the greens, of which there is great variety, all set off appropriately in their different parts by the reds and greys of the rock. Imagine the whole over-arched with foliage, the blue sky only seen dotted through it; and from the nearest rock, in the very foreground, a great branch, boldly thrown to the very centre of the picture, with its large leaves as it were dropping gold and verdure, dark-green, yet transparently illuminated at their edges. Moss-covered stones are thrown about, and luxuriant weeds and leafage growing, and springing, and bending all around."

On the whole, although these papers are better suited for the casual and ephemeral purposes of a magazine, than to take a standard place in literature, there is, no doubt, a large class of readers who admire a diffuse, chaty style, not without the graces of poetic ornament culled from the ordinary sources, and who are willing to meet the want of mental exertion which is often to be found in the pages of our author, by a corresponding absence of effort in the task of reading him. To these such a book as 'The Sketcher' will be abundantly acceptable; whilst the refined air which pervades its disquisitions, and the charming subjects of which it treats, will recommend it to the attention of every person of true taste.

Western Africa: its History, Condition, and Prospects. By the Rev. J. Leighton Wilson. With numerous Engravings. Low, Son, and Co.

MR. WILSON'S book on 'Western Africa' contains the most complete and circumstantial report that has yet appeared of the present condition of this part of the world, together with notices of its past history. Having passed nearly twenty years of his life in the country, visited every place of importance on the coast, and made extended excursions in many of the maritime districts; having studied and reduced to writing two of the principal native languages, and had much intercourse with the people, he is well qualified to write such a narrative. The best books by previous travellers or historians have been consulted, including Barbot, Murray, Mungo Park, Walker, Fox, Bandinal, and Heeren. The chapter on the Ashantee coast has been condensed from Becham's book on the Gold Coast and Ashantee. What pertains to Dahomi is drawn from Lieutenant Forbes' work on that country, Duncan's 'Travels,' and Freeman's 'Journal of a Visit to Dahomi.' But the largest portion of the volume is the result of the writer's own observations and knowledge, and as such is entitled to attentive consideration. Several reports on Western Africa have been already published in America, especially those of Commanders Foote and Lynch. The Colonization Society's Reports and the Messages of President Roberts of Liberia, have also from time to

time furnished important information. But for the first time there now appears a connected and systematic account of all the districts which Europeans or Americans have been accustomed to visit on these coasts. The notices of the native customs and manners, occupations and superstitions, do not differ much from those that have been previously communicated by travellers, but in the account of the languages and literature of some of the native tribes valuable and novel information is presented in this volume. In natural history there are also some remarkable notices, such as the description of a recently discovered species of orang-outang, or chimpanzee, larger than any previously known:—

"The most formidable of all animals in the woods of Africa is the famous, but recently discovered, *Troglodytes Gorilla*, called in the language of the Gabun, Njema. The writer was the first to call the attention of naturalists to this animal. Toward the close of 1846 he accidentally came across the skull of one, which he knew at once, from its peculiar shape and outline, to belong to an undescribed species. After some search a second skull was procured, but of smaller size. No other portion of the skeleton could be procured for some time afterward. The natives, however, seemed to be perfectly familiar with the habits and character of the animal, gave minute accounts of its size, its ferocity, and the kind of woods which it frequented; they also gave confident assurances that in due time a perfect skeleton should be produced. In the mean time, impressions were taken in this country of the two heads which were procured, and all the information that could be obtained from the natives was published, and served to awaken the liveliest interest among naturalists. Since then perfect skeletons have been taken to England and France, and brought to this country, so that scientific men have sufficient knowledge of the subject to assign this animal its proper place in natural history. It belongs to the orang-outang or chimpanzee family, but is larger and much more powerful than any other known species. The writer has seen one of these animals after it was killed. It is almost impossible to give a correct idea, either of the hideousness of its looks, or the amazing muscular power which it possesses. Its intensely black face not only reveals features greatly exaggerated, but the whole countenance is but one expression of savage ferocity. Large eyeballs, a crest of long hair, which falls over the forehead when it is angry, a mouth of immense capacity, revealing a set of terrible teeth, and large protruding ears, altogether make it one of the most frightful animals in the world. It is not surprising that the natives are afraid to encounter them even when armed. The skeleton of one, presented by the writer to the Natural History Society of Boston, is supposed to be five feet and a half high, and with its flesh, thick skin, and the long shaggy hair with which it is covered, it must have been nearly four feet across the shoulders. The natives say it is ferocious, and invariably gives battle whenever it meets a single person. I have seen a man the calf of whose leg was nearly torn off in an encounter with one of these monsters, and he would probably have been torn to pieces in a very short time if his companions had not come to his rescue. It is said they will wrest a musket from the hands of a man and crush the barrel between their jaws, and there is nothing, judging from the muscles of the jaws, or the size of their teeth, that renders such a thing improbable.

"The common African chimpanzee abounds in all parts of Western Africa. Those of Southern Guinea are not so large as those higher up the coast. It is the nearest approximation to the human species of any of the monkey family. It is easily domesticated, is mild and sociable in disposition, and gives unmistakable evidence of strong personal attachments. Its character and habits are so well known that we do not feel it important to give it a more extended account."

On the subject of the slave trade, and the efforts that are made for its suppression, the following testimony to the success of the British squadron is valuable from an American writer:—

"The British squadron has rendered important service to the cause of humanity. It has put down piracy on the African seas; has restored peace and tranquillity to a line of sea-coast of more than 2000 miles; has called into existence a large and flourishing commerce, and, at the same time, has thrown the shield of its protection over the cause of Christian missions, and all the varied agency that has been employed to promote the cause of humanity and civilization among the benighted inhabitants of this great continent. If these great objects are not worthy of British philanthropy, we know not where to find those that are.

"Some additional expense is incurred, it is true, in the way of prize-money, the support of a Court of Mixed Commission, and the temporary support of recaptive slaves, but nothing in comparison with the great objects which are accomplished by the enterprise. If the resources of Great Britain were really tasked by this comparatively small outlay, it would become a matter of just inquiry how far it should be continued; but so long as this is not the case, it will be difficult to point out any one object more worthy of her care and patronage.

"In relation to the exposure of life, it is admitted that much sickness has been endured and many lives lost, but this was in the earlier stages of the enterprise, when the officers of the squadron were inexperienced in relation to the best means of preserving the health and lives of their crews. The practice more recently adopted of employing krumen and other natives of the country to perform all that kind of labour which requires special exposure, has placed this enterprise on an entirely different footing, and made cruising along the coast of Africa nearly as safe as any where else. This fact is already known to the Board of Admiralty; and if the limits of this article would allow, we could prove from our own observations, not only in connexion with the operations of the squadron, but likewise that of trading-vessels, the justice and truth of this assumption. Commander Chamberlain, of her Britannic Majesty's brig *Britomart*, informed the writer that he had been cruising on the coast nearly two years without having lost a man, or having had, so far as he knew, a single case of African fever on board his vessel; the United States sloop-of-war *Yorktown*, with a crew of nearly 200 men, cruised on the coast two years without having lost a single man, and the writer was informed by Captain Bell that he had never had a healthier crew in any part of the world. Facts of a similar character without number have come under the observation of the writer in connexion with trading-vessels. It has uniformly been observed that where sleeping on shore has been avoided, and where temperance and cleanliness have been enforced, there has been little or no sickness that could be attributed to the climate. Since these and other measures for preserving health have been adopted on board of the cruisers, there has been little sickness, and still less mortality.

"If the Government of Great Britain would give efficiency to this enterprise, and bring the slave trade to a speedy termination, vessels of a better class should be designated to this service than those which have been stationed on the coast for a few years past. The writer pretends to no personal knowledge of the sailing qualities of vessels; but an article has recently appeared in the London 'Times,' by one of the commanders who has been in the service, in which it is conclusively proved that a large number of the vessels in the African service for a few years past have been of the poorer class, and utterly unfit for the kind of service in which they are engaged. None but the fastest sailers can be of any real use. Those employed by the slave-traders are the fastest that can be procured; and to send in chase of them

second or third-rate cruisers is but to subject the officers of the navy to disappointment and mortification. A small number of the fastest sailers would be more effective, and accomplish the undertaking with much more certainty. We do not pretend to define any particular length of time that it will be necessary to keep a squadron on the coast—this must, of course, be determined by circumstances; but, for our own part, we do not suppose that the period will be long before these exertions may be gradually diminished, until no farther necessity will exist.

"In conclusion, we would suggest also the importance of forming a larger number of military and commercial stations along the coast, like those of Cape Coast and Akra. They might be erected on a small and economical scale, and being garrisoned by black soldiers, as they ought to be, the expense of maintaining them would be comparatively small. These stations, while they would form important centres for the promotion of commerce and the spread of Christianity, might be rendered very efficient in putting down the slave-trade. Treaties for this purpose might easily be formed with the African chiefs more immediately concerned; and if they were thrown open to the free trade of all nations, as the English settlements on the Gold Coast are at the present time, very little jealousy would be felt in relation to any new territory which Great Britain might acquire for this purpose. The importance of such establishments is enhanced, too, by the necessity which is felt for consular agents to adjudicate differences between captains of trading-vessels and the chiefs of the country; and this necessity will increase just in proportion to the increase of lawful commerce."

It is estimated that the annual exports from Western Africa are now about 2,000,000; and this might easily be trebled in twenty years, if protection be continued to lawful commerce till it has taken deeper root in the native mind. About thirty years ago there were not more than ten or twelve trading vessels on the coast, besides the slavers; now there are more than two hundred, with aggregate tonnage far exceeding that of the slave-trade in its time of greatest prosperity.

With regard to Christian missions in Africa, the experience of Mr. Wilson, who was eighteen years actively engaged in this work of philanthropy, affords important information and suggestions. He states that after long years of preliminary labour, some of the difficulties of missionary enterprise in this region have been overcome, more than twenty dialects of the native speech having been reduced to writing, and the Scriptures prepared for wide circulation, while hundreds of native youths have received a good Christian education, and many thousands embraced Christianity, and exhibited in civilized communities the reality of their faith.

The following is a list of all the fixed settlements, European and American, on this part of the coast at the present time:—"the British colony at Sierra Leone; the Liberian settlements on the Grain Coast; one small French settlement at Grand Bassam, and another at Assini, on the Ivory Coast; the British forts at Dix Cove, at Cape Coast, at Anamabo, and Akra; and the Dutch forts at Axime, at Butre, at Elmina, and Akra, on the Gold Coast; two small posts recently established at Badagry and Lagos by the English, on the Slave Coast; and a small English settlement on the Island of Fernando Po, near the coast of Benin." The number of whites resident on the coast or adjacent islands is estimated at about three thousand, and there is about an equal floating population of whites engaged in commerce, and in the suppression of the slave trade.

The World's Highway. Reprinted from the 'Calcutta Review' for March, 1856. Weale.

The Euphrates Valley Route to India. By a Traveller. Stanford.

ONE day this week we witnessed the arrival of an East Indianman, a first-class ship, the *Marlborough*, after a voyage from Calcutta of eighteen weeks. Four months is about the average time by the Cape. The overland route by Egypt has brought the distance down to six weeks, and the times of the Indian mail may be almost as surely counted on as the post between London and Edinburgh or Dublin. But it was not likely that genius and skill would rest satisfied with having achieved thus much. To reduce the distance between England and her dominions in India to the minimum is a grand project, one mode of carrying which into operation is explained in the article now reprinted from the last number of the 'Calcutta Review.' The plan is to continue to Bussorah, at the head of the Persian Gulf, the European railways already completed as far as Belgrade, and about to be constructed from Belgrade to Constantinople. From Bussorah there would at the present be communication with India by a line of steamers, but ultimately there will be a prolongation of the railway through Persia and Beloochistan to Kurrachee and Bombay, when the distance from London to Calcutta will be reduced to a few days, and the telegraphic distance to a few hours:—

"The author of the scheme is the Managing Director of the East Indian Railway Company, Mr. R. Macdonald Stephenson. This gentleman, whose biography will one day give to the world a new instance of what may be achieved by energy and purpose, had watched from 1835 the progress of international communication with the East. He had seen the long-continued and strenuous effort of the commercial world to accelerate the communication. He had comprehended from the first the magnitude of the trade which must one day be carried by the speediest route. In 1840, the success of the Peninsular and Oriental Company convinced him that the time was ripe for a yet more extended project. His idea was briefly this. He conceived it possible to girdle the world with an iron chain, to connect Europe and Asia from their furthest extremities by one colossal railway. A portion of this scheme is still too far in the future for us to do more than indicate its vastness. The remainder, all that falls within our scope, was to connect so much of the two continents as should enable a locomotive to travel from Calcutta to London with but two breaks, one at the Straits, and one at the Dardanelles. Even this, however, is sufficiently gigantic. The distance is one on which a locomotive might grow weary. The road lies through separate kingdoms, each jealous of yielding the slightest advantage to each other. It crosses pathless deserts, passes regions inhabited only by tribes whose hand has been against every man since Ishmael became a warrior. Even if the physical difficulties are overcome, the political obstacles seem almost insuperable. We admit all this, and admitting, hope to show that the physical difficulties are over-rated, and the political have been smoothed away by Mr. Stephenson himself."

In a letter to Lord Palmerston, last year, Mr. Stephenson presented a summary of the results of his efforts, and a statement of the prospects of the scheme:—

"March 31st, 1855.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to request your Lordship's consideration of a subject which has been permitted to remain in temporary abeyance, awaiting the precise period at which it could be most opportunely and effectually acted upon.

"2. The establishment of the National Highway, via Constantinople, connecting Europe and

Asia, under the combined protection of the principal European powers, was proposed in 1850, under your Lordship's favourable auspices, to the Governments of France, Austria, Belgium, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and to the authorities in Constantinople, whose cordial concurrence and co-operation were promised, whenever the time arrived to proceed with the undertaking.

"3. I am most reluctant to trespass upon your Lordship's valuable time, and shall, therefore, briefly state, that the progress of the Railways in India is so far satisfactory, that the first section of 121 miles is in full operation, and that the line between Calcutta and Delhi (about 1000 miles) will be completed in 1857.

"4. The connexion between the east and west coasts of India, by which Calcutta will join Hyderabad in Scinde, will be carried out at an early period, and the European lines will be soon extended as far as the Danube.

"5. The intermediate links depend entirely upon the Sultan. The present occasion appears especially favourable for settling the terms of a concession which shall enable a private association under the protection of the European powers, to open the communication by Constantinople between the West and the East.

"6. Your Lordship, I hope, will concur in the views most respectfully submitted, that the construction of a Railway through European and Asiatic Turkey, Persia and Beloochistan, to Hyderabad, in Scinde (which will soon be connected by rail with Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Delhi, and Lahore), would contribute materially to the interests of the countries traversed—that unless the present occasion be availed of, such another opportunity may not again be afforded for so favourable terms being obtained for Great Britain to secure that which is of so much real importance as a direct communication with her Indian possessions—and that a measure which shall secure the means of proceeding from London to and from all parts of India within a period of one week, and at a cost of less than half what is now paid for a six weeks' or four months' passage, are points deserving the serious consideration of your Lordship.

"7. I feel personally most anxious that this great enterprise should be determined upon and carried out, under the administration, as it was commenced under the auspices of your Lordship; and I have only to state, that should your Lordship deem it advantageous for the general interests that I should personally communicate with your Lordship upon the subject, I have no doubt but that the permission of the Government of India, and of the Board of Directors, would be granted to my temporary absence under the circumstances; when the complete arrangements which I shall propose, and which, with their concurrence previously obtained, shall be prepared to carry out, shall be submitted to your Lordship, and if approved of, I will undertake to connect London and Calcutta by Railway, and reduce the travelling distance to a few days, and the telegraphic distance to as many hours, before the end of the year 1865.

"8. I shall require no pecuniary assistance from the Government. The moral influence and support of Great Britain and the other European powers interested, and the assurance of security and the protection of life and property, with the concession, by the Sultan, of land, and defined local privileges will alone be required.

"I await the favour of your Lordship's views before proceeding further in the matter, and I have the honour to subscribe myself,

"My Lord,

"Your Lordship's faithful servant,
(Signed) "ROWLAND MACDONALD STEPHENSON."

The projector is not less sanguine as to the commercial prospects of the line:—

"The total length of the line from Belgrade to Bussorah, including the branch line from Bir to Scanderoon, is about nineteen hundred miles. The experience of the Continent and of the United States, and the experience now being acquired in

India, all points to the same truth. Railways stripped of their English adjuncts, land and litigation, cost about 10,000*l.* a mile. At that rate the amount required for the line would be about nineteen millions sterling. The receipts of the P. and O. Company alone were in 1855, 1,600,000*l.* That is, if the Railway obtained no more traffic than that Company, it would—expenses being in the usual proportion—still be enabled to pay a dividend of something like three and a half per cent. That the amount will be ten times as great it might not be very difficult to prove, but we have little inclination to undertake the task. We might quote authorities from Heeren to Chesney, and rummage the Custom houses of the world, and after all, all the facts we could collect would not equal the evidence we can bring forward in a line. All the passenger traffic and all the lighter goods traffic of two continents will pass over one cheap line. The trade which built the cities of the Mediterranean, the trade which half supports England, the trade to obtain a share of which America discusses plans almost too gigantic for the imagination, must be carried through this one artery. That the artery will be full is perceptible without more words of ours."

In previous letters, in 1850, Mr. Stephenson narrated to Lord Palmerston, then Foreign Secretary, the progress of his labours in removing the political obstacles to the project. The fear of injury to the port of Marseilles was the sole objection met with from the Continental powers interested in the railway. Russia was presumed to be hostile, and the inertness of Turkey was expected, but the war has cleared away most of the difficulties dreaded from these quarters. It may interest our readers to know the grounds on which the speedy and successful carrying out of this great project is based, and to see the spirit in which its projector has prosecuted his design:—

"The world is but a little place after all, when viewed with the eyes of engineers instead of those of historians. Athens and Sparta may be mighty names. The valour of the latter, the intellect of the former may still exercise an influence, the strength of which we can scarcely even comprehend. But Athens is a county no bigger than Norfolk. A Railway from Athens to Sparta would not reach from Calcutta to Raneeungee. The area of all that Greece which is to us a land of so many nations and cities would scarcely cover the area of Portugal. Olympus may be majestic to the imagination. Stephenson would not consider a tunnel through Olympus a wonderful undertaking. Peto would hand over the petty contract to some second-class foreman. The portion of the route in Europe is already almost complete. From Calais or Ostend to Pesh the line of Railway is unbroken. It is possible for a traveller leaving London by the South Western, and really in haste, to reach the capital of Hungary by Paris, Strasbourg, and Vienna, in eight-and-forty hours. Between Pesh and Belgrade a line is already in process of construction. Already the Sultan has sanctioned tenders for a line from Belgrade to Constantinople. A formal proposal has been put forward for the construction of the line. As in the instance of the Indian Railways, this first offer proved insufficient to tempt capitalists, and remained unanswered. The difficulty is merely one of detail. Let adequate terms be offered, and the work will be completed like a Railway in England or the United States. The materials procurable only from home, can be landed at Constantinople as easily as Alexandria. Europeans can work in the open air all along this road. Any number of navies may therefore be imported to oversee the works. For ordinary labour the serfs are fully competent, and oppressed as they are would be readily tempted by English gold. Provisions are cheap and plentiful. The 'Roving Englishman' has given us a schedule of prices for pigs, sheep, and poultry which would make a Lothian farmer

gasp again. The war with its vast demands, and its reckless expenditure, has increased these prices till they afford no criterion for the present, but with the war the demand will cease. The low ranges which appear to present obstacles are pierced by a hundred passes, and are all less difficult than the Western Ghats, which Railways are now beginning to ascend. The Balkan, the most formidable obstacle in the road, may be either crossed or evaded. It is impossible of course to quote the result of actual survey. We may however give the opinion of one well-known politician, Prince Callimaki. This gentleman, the ablest Greek who has of late years entered the service of the Porte, has been a candidate for the Hospodariate of Wallachia. He is profoundly acquainted with the country, and thus expressed himself at Paris to Mr. Stephenson: 'From the nature and extent of the existing trade between Constantinople and Adrianople, and between Scutari and Is Nikmid, I feel assured that a Railway there would be from the beginning remunerative. I have inspected the iron mines worked by my own government about Nessa Sophia and Philippoli, and believe coal exists in abundance all along the coasts of the Black Sea. I do not consider the Balkan an insuperable engineering difficulty, but I conceive it would be perhaps easier to avoid it by following the course of the Danube, and then skirting the Black Sea to Constantinople.'

As far as Constantinople the route is plain enough, and the difficulties, physical as well as political, may be readily surmounted. Beyond this, there have been no levels taken, no surveys made, and no data collected for accurate calculation. Yet there is no lack of sanguine speculation as to the work:—

"From Constantinople to the head of the Gulf of Persia is but 1300 miles. There is a practicable road. There is a means of commencing the line at many points, instead of beginning at both ends only. There is labour in abundance. The route walked over, though not surveyed, would be from Scutari to Is Nikmid or Ismid, a place with a population of 4000, and known as the great resort for residents of Constantinople, wealthy enough to afford the luxury of a change of air. Thence the line would probably strike southward by the Valley of the Sakarrah River, to Eskishehr, keeping to the South of Sevrhissar and Balahissar, by Chunder to the South of Lake Touz, by Iskil and Akserai, Soanli, and Kala Hissar to Malatich. Then emerging from the mountain pass of Eez Oglou it would strike the head of the Euphrates. From thence to Mesko the country is one uninterrupted level plain. Thence, passing to the west of the Singar hills, or to the west of Lekrit, Aslak, and Bagdad, it would cross the canals which connect the Tigris and Euphrates, and finally passing Kornah, at the confluence of those giant streams, would terminate at the Persian Gulf. For one-half of the road it is evident we have a route which, however little known, has been traversed, crossed, and noted by civilised men. For the remainder we have the valley of the Euphrates. Wherever, as a rule, a river can run, a Railway can be made, and through more than half the route it will run by the banks of important rivers. Then as to the points at which the work may be commenced. At one point, Bhr, the Euphrates, still navigable, is not a hundred miles from Scanderoon, one of the best and deepest ports in the Mediterranean. A short branch Railway would render the Euphrates almost as accessible as the Nile. Long before the Railway could be completed, a direct communication might be established between Scanderoon and Bombay. By this road, also, men and materials, navies and iron, labourers and engines might be shot out upon the centre of the line. It might, therefore, be commenced as it were at four ends at once, and the process of construction be thus accelerated by at least one-half. This section, too, opening as it does a new road between Bombay and the Mediterranean, may create a most important subsidiary traffic. It would, of course, be

the grand route for the merchants of the Italian States, and even, perhaps, for French exports to India. The only remaining difficulty, the supply of labour, is simply a question of expense. We will imagine that the country itself can add nothing in this respect; that Arabs will not work for us as they did for Mr. Layard; that the men who keep up the system of canals will laugh at Feringhee gold. Even then, if every labourer must be imported, the problem is easy of solution. There are three entrances to the line. At Constantinople we all know there is labour. Even a Turk will work if he is well paid, and called an overseer. The rayahs will work at cuttings as readily as canals, at embankments as readily as roads. They will not be the less numerous because regularly paid, or the less industrious because exempt from what Curzon calls '*stick ad libitum*.' For the work to which they are incompetent, we can employ the stronger races of the shore of the Black Sea, the men who now do the drudgery of the French encampment. For the centre points we shall have all the labour available by sea. The work is not like that on the barrage of the Nile. The climate is thoroughly invigorating, and with the slightest care, even Europeans can be employed for seven months in the year in the open air. At all times they can do the work they perform in India, the task of superintendence. For actual labour, we have all the races on the shores of the great inland sea. Fellahs may be hired. Black labour may be purchased from the African coast, and in a few months, 200,000 labourers could be collected on the Euphrates. For the Southern terminus, we have the men who are now working on the western lines of India, the labourers of Bombay and Cutch, Kattywar, Guzerat, and Broach. The hordes of Chinese, moreover, who annually swarm off to California and Australia, to Siam and Singapore, can be as easily attracted to the Persian Gulf, and there are no better labourers in the world. In short, the whole affair resolves itself on this as on every other line, into a mere question of expense."

At the head of the Persian Gulf the first section of the line ends, and here the chief difficulties of the scheme begin. The original plan was to carry the line through Fars, Laristan, and Beloochistan, the most mountainous and rugged of Asiatic provinces, and peopled by wild and warlike tribes. Consideration of these obstacles has led Colonel Sheil, the Persian envoy, to suggest a different route by the coast. Writing from Teheran in 1850, Colonel Sheil says:—

"I propose for your consideration a different line.

"From Mohemmera (near Bussorah) to the Indus there is a low level belt of land of varying width, which runs along the sea, separating the latter from the highlands of Laristan, Fars, Kerman, and Beloochistan.

"The word level has probably exceptions, but if mountains do in any part extend to the sea, which is not unlikely in Laristan, they are at all events of infinitely less account than those before mentioned: and assuming that there are places impracticable for railway operations, the sea is at all events at hand for transport by steamer to the spot where the line has been resumed.

"Any speculations are unnecessary of the immense advantage of the vicinity of the sea for all purposes connected with the construction, maintenance, and preservation of the line.

"The chief objections which occur to me with regard to this line compared with any more northern line, are the great heats of the climate during certain months, its insalubrity at the same period, and its distance from the commerce of the northern and central parts of Persia."

THE republication of this article from the 'Calcutta Review' has elicited the pamphlet on the Euphrates Valley Route, a scheme more defined in its plans, and likely to be

carried into execution within a brief period. Mr. Stephenson's statements are criticised somewhat roughly, and his claims to the merit of projecting a great line are contemptuously spoken of. Whatever has been done, beyond the marking out a conjectural route upon the map, is said to be the work of Colonel Chesney, Mr. Ainsworth, Dr. James Thompson, and others who have explored or surveyed portions of the regions under question. At the same time, the following passage admits the probability of the railway communication with India being ultimately completed, and it is the interest belonging to this fact that induces us to notice the subject thus at length, without being influenced by the statements of rival companies or speculators. Granting all that can be said against Mr. Stephenson and his route, we read in the pamphlet of the traveller:—

"It is to be hoped that some day, when the line of railway from Belgrade to Constantinople comes into action, and has been united with the railways of Hungary; and the line of the valley of the Euphrates has been also brought into operation; that a connecting link will be established between the two across Asia Minor, by such a feasible route as we could readily give the details of, and which would include the plains of Cilicia Campestris, the pass of Kulak Boghaz, the plain of Nigdeh, the valley of the Halys, and the great Constantinopolitan road, by Hadji Hamsah, Boli, and Ismid, as originally laid before the British Association for the Advancement of Science, and not by such an impracticable and visionary line as that proposed by Mr. R. M. Stephenson. It is also to be hoped that some day Sir Justin Sheil's plan may be put into execution, and that the maritime line which would bring the valley of the Euphrates into connexion with that of the Indus, or the Euphrates and Tigris railway into conjunction with the Scinde railway, may be carried out; but in the mean time it is obvious that the Persian Gulf presents such facilities for steam navigation, can indeed be navigated by steamers of such small dimensions, that an almost daily communication could be established without incurring overwhelming expenses; and that such communication, in connexion with the route by the valley of the Euphrates, is infinitely preferable to a line exposed to such strong objections on the score of expense, difficulties, and dangers, as those which are urged by Sir Justin Sheil and Colonel Hennel against the proposed line of Mekran."

Of the route by the valley of the Euphrates, with which the name of Colonel (now General) Chesney has been honourably associated, an account appears in a Memoir by W. P. Andrew, Esq., the Chairman of the Company:—

"The proposition is to connect the Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf by a railway from the ancient port of Seleucia, by Antioch and Aleppo, to Ja'ber Castle on the Euphrates, of eighty miles in length; and afterwards from thence by Hit, and other towns, to Bagdad, and on to Kurnah, at the confluence of the Euphrates and Tigris, or Bussorah, at the head of the Persian Gulf. Thence by steamers, communication will be established with all parts of India."

"It is only proposed at present to execute the first section, about eighty miles of railroad, from the ancient port of Seleucia in the Mediterranean, to Ja'ber Castle on the Euphrates; below which point, the navigation of the river is permanently open, for steamers of light draught and the boats of the country, for 715 miles to Bussorah, at the head of the Persian Gulf.

"Mr. Laird, of Birkenhead, has undertaken to furnish steamers to navigate the Euphrates, capable of carrying a large amount of merchandise and passengers, at a speed of twelve knots an hour when loaded, and with a draft of two feet.

"A steam route being thus established between

the Mediterranean Sea and the Persian Gulf, the shortest and most rapid means of communication between the capitals and emporia of the West and East would be at once open for political and commercial purposes. It being intended to co-operate with the river and make it available for commerce, by removing natural obstructions, and introducing steamers of improved construction, and to supersede it by the railway only when circumstances appear to demand it, the future sections of the line will be gradually carried down the valley of the Euphrates, from the right bank, opposite Ja'ber Castle to Phumsah, the ancient Thapsacus. Crossing into Mesopotamia at this suitable place, the railway will be carried along the valley by Anah and Hit to the environs of Bagdad; and thence by Babylon and Hillah to the confluence of the Euphrates and Tigris at Kurnah, where there is sufficient depth of water for the largest steamers; or to Bussorah, thirty-seven miles nearer the head of the Persian Gulf, where an extensive trade is already established, and where there is ample accommodation for square-rigged ships of large burden.

* The importance of the Euphrates, as a second and more expeditious route to our Indian possessions, is daily forcing itself upon the public mind; and as the whole of Northern India and Central Asia, from the banks of the Oxus to the gates of Delhi, will shortly have an outlet to the sea by the Scinde Railway from Kurrachee to Hyderabad, and along the valley of the Indus, such a route would seem to become imperative.

* By the arrangement now proposed, India would be reached in fifteen days, or about half the time now occupied, viz. :-

	Miles.	Days.	Hours.
London to Trieste by rail, and from thence by steamer to Seleucia	...	8	6
Seleucia to Ja'ber Castle, by railway	73	0	3
Ja'ber Castle to Bussorah, by steamer	935	3	3
Bussorah to Kurrachee, by steamer	940	3	0
		14	12

Whatever may be the ultimate fate of the more extended scheme of 'the world's highway,' the route described in this memoir is one unquestionably practicable, and commanding advantages which ought to secure its speedily being brought into operation. The importance of the ancient port of Seleucia has been fully proclaimed by Gen. Chesney and by Captain Allen, R.N., the latter officer having reported that it is capable, at a trifling expense, of being made one of the finest harbours in the world. Eighteen miles from Seleucia is Antioch, in the midst of the fertile valley of the Orontes, along which the line can be carried with little expense or difficulty. Aleppo, with 90,000 inhabitants, one of the richest cities in Syria, and the chief emporium of the trade of the country, is forty-two miles from Antioch. Ja'ber Castle, thirty-nine miles from Aleppo, is on the Euphrates, and offers every facility for the construction of docks. The memoir by Mr. Andrew presents details and estimates which afford a most favourable view of the commercial prospects of the line. As to the navigability of the Euphrates at all seasons there is still some difference of statement, but the reports of those best qualified to bear testimony give no discouragement in this respect. Ultimately a line of railway throughout the whole valley to the head of the Persian Gulf will be doubtless completed, but meanwhile political and commercial motives urge the execution of the line from Seleucia to Ja'ber, and the establishment of a route by which the tedious and dangerous navigation of the Red Sea may be avoided, and the ancient centres of the world's commerce and population opened up to modern enterprise and civilization.

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- Jaufré the Knight and the Fair Brunissende: a Tale of the Times of King Arthur.* Translated from the French Version of Mary Lafon, by Alfred Elwes. Illustrated with Twenty Engravings by G. Doré. Addey and Co.
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- A Key to Eleven Hundred Questions on the Use of the Globes.* By William Hardcastle. Relie Brothers.
- Outlines of Modern History.* — Chambers's Educational Course. W. and R. Chambers.

THE Treatise on the Logic of the Christian Faith has important bearings both on philosophy and theology. Mr. Dove proceeds on the principle of tracing and examining human thought and reasoning, from the absolute negation of belief up to the highest and most complex form of faith. First, there is an examination of Scepticism (or the universal negative); then of Pantheism (or the universal affirmative); and Natural Theology and Revelation (or the particular affirmative). The particular negative, being the form of argumentation employed against superstitions and false religions, is not discussed. In meeting the philosophic difficulties which have been supposed to lie in the way of a positive theology, the author shows, by appeal to the first principles of the common reason of mankind, that those difficulties arise from fallacies, from illicit processes, or from an imperfect analysis of thought. The argument professes to show:—"1. That a theologic argument is not, and cannot be, the demonstration of a theorem, but the solution of a problem. 2. That philosophic Scepticism is untenable, inasmuch as science does actually attain to the knowledge of causes, and uses causes in the ordinary operation of indubitable calculation. 3. That Pantheism is merely a mode of viewing the universe which might be entertained by a single individual, if existing alone, and having no intercourse with other beings or fellow-creatures. 4. That the induction from nature is altogether unsatisfactory, and cannot lead to an Infinite Person. 5. That the moral argument is absolute, and, therefore, infinite. 6. That the moral idea being projected into the region of nature, the two regions become united, and nature is seen to arise from the will of the Moral Deity. 7. That the only possible mode of arriving at objective truth is by a Revelation from an Infinite Being; which Revelation shall be subjective in its evidences and objective in the matter of its truth." Such are the philosophic conclusions which Mr. Dove establishes in his ably argued dissertation. Philosophy, 'falsely so called,' is combated on its own ground, and the two subtlest forms of unbelief, that which affirms that all our knowledge is subjective, and the Pantheistic merging of all things in abstract Deity, are shown to be untenable. One of the most important and remarkable sections of the work is that which proclaims the insufficiency of a theological argument from external nature. On this subject we shall have some remarks to offer in reviewing the book.

So far as any coherent aim can be traced throughout the ponderous volumes of Mr. Wilson's *Solar System of the Ancients*, the attempt of the author appears to be to show that the elementary laws of

gravitation were known to the ancient Burmese and Egyptians. He states the arithmetical relations between the measurements of time, velocity, and space in the case of a falling body, and then endeavours to trace some fanciful analogy to this in the relative proportion between the axis and ordinate of a section of a Burmese temple or an Egyptian pyramid. He says (vol. i. p. 206), "The Birman solid hyperbolic temples are symbolical of the law of the velocity described by a body gravitating to the centre of force. The Egyptian solid pyramidal temples are typical of the law of the time corresponding to that velocity." Subsequent parts of the book consist of extracts from ancient and modern writers, scraps of history and travels, and various statements of fact and fiction, so unconnected and incongruous as to lead to the belief that the book has been compiled out of jest or bravado, or is the effect of some more melancholy condition of mind. The following passage is hardly sane. We extract at random, from vol. ii. p. 329:—"Since the obelisk represents the distance and periodic time of a planet's revolution round the sun, and as unity in the obelisk = $\frac{311}{14}$ foot, or nearly 14 inches, which is about the distance between the steps of a ladder, or the radii of a ship, the time of ascent to the planet Ninus, the abode of the gods, is very poetically described by Southey, in the 'Curse of Kehama,' where Ereenia ascends to Mount Calasay."

The Tale of Jaufré the Knight and the Fair Brunissende, as translated from the French version of Mary Lafon, is founded on an old poem in the Provencal language, of which two manuscript copies are preserved in the Imperial Library at Paris. The author of the legend is unknown, and it is said to have been brought by a troubadour from the court of the King of Aragon. It contains many striking descriptions and allusions to subjects which were popular in the romantic literature of the middle ages. "Two peculiarities," says the author of the French version, "enhance the value of this poetic gem; one is the influence of Arabic ideas, of which it has a distant savour, like the balmy cases of the East; and the other, the inspiration which it evidently lent to Cervantes. If, for instance, we discover therein the roc, the wishes, and the tent of the fairy Paribanon, as traces of the Arabian Nights, we behold, on the other hand, that this romance of Jaufré has furnished Cervantes with the first idea of the adventure of the galley-slaves (*dedicados galeras*), the Knight in Green (*cavallero del verde gavan*), the braying of the regidores (*rezubno de los dos regidores*), the Princess Micomicona, and the Enchanted Head." Apart from these grounds of interest, the tale of Jaufré and Brunissende is full of interest, from its sketches of the life and literature of the times of chivalry. The volume is embellished with clever illustrations by Gustav Doré.

The new novel by Lady Emily Ponsonby is interesting as a story, and still more to be commended for the tone of high principle with which it is pervaded, and the profitable lessons it inculcates. In the young lord is delineated a man of wealth and influence, with much firmness and energy of character, and disposition to be actively employed in doing good in his station. A friend of his father, seeing these qualities in the son, had left him guardian of his daughter. This charge he honourably fulfilled, and hereby hangs the tale. From the first, the reader comes to the conclusion that it will be a case between the young lord and his fair ward, the obviousness of which *dénouement* spoils a little of the interest of the history. But various crosses and misadventures intervene, including the rejection of the young lord when in his highest prosperity, and his acceptance afterwards, at a time when severe personal trials rendered his union with his beloved Sybil doubly necessary for his happiness. He was afflicted with blindness, and this, with other trials, had subdued and softened a spirit naturally proud and severe, with all its good qualities. In describing the discipline through which he passed, and the works of benevolence which he directed, useful lessons are conveyed to readers in any sphere of life.

In the story of Sunshine and Shadow there are well-drawn characters and abundance of incidents, while the ordinary narrative and sentiment, common to all novels of the kind, are relieved by some passages of melo-dramatic interest.

The present volume of Orr's Circle of the Sciences embraces treatises on the following subjects:—Practical Astronomy, Navigation, Nautical Astronomy, and Meteorology, by Professor Young, of Belfast College; Mr. Hugh Breen, of the Greenwich Observatory; Mr. John Scoffern and Mr. Lowe, of Highfield House Observatory, in Nottinghamshire. The treatises are written in a popular style, and are copiously illustrated.

Mr. Sang's Treatise on Elementary Arithmetic is designed as the first of a series of treatises on the subjects commonly classed under the title of Mathematics. In the Elementary Arithmetic it is the author's object and ambition to treat the subject as a science as well as an art—"having, during long experience as preceptor in the higher departments of mathematics, observed that almost all the difficulties which the student encounters are traceable to an imperfect acquaintance with arithmetic." Those who are conscious that their knowledge of numbers is imperfect or empirical will do well to study Mr. Sang's elaborate and ingenious treatise; in doing which, the intellect more than the memory will be called into exercise.

The Questions and Examples by Mr. Hardcastle form a good supplementary volume to any treatise on the globes, consisting of exercises, proposed by the author to his own pupils, in the course of a long period of educational duty. Some of the questions are simply arithmetical exercises, or "sums;" but many are purposely framed to involve arithmetical calculations with the actual use of the globes. Brief statements of the theory of the subject, and of the rules for practice, are prefixed to each section of the exercises. It is a useful educational book, and deserves the favour of the scholastic profession. A separate volume contains a key to the questions, for the benefit of tutors and teachers.

The Treatise on Modern History, in Chambers's Educational Course, is a continuation of that on Medieval History, in the same series, and prepared on the same plan. In a period so crowded with great events as the last three centuries, it would be impossible to give more than a compendious summary, attention being paid to fulness of matter and accuracy of statement, rather than to the literary style of the work. The compiler's diligence in research and skill in condensation are to be commended; and the volume forms a very useful manual of modern history, from the time of the Reformation to the close of the Russian war last year. A supplementary chapter contains brief notices of the history of art, science, and literature since the Reformation. A copious index adds to the completeness and utility of the book.

New Editions.

The Life and Epistles of St. Paul. By the Rev. W. J. Conybeare, M.A., and the Rev. J. S. Howson, M.A. 2 vols. Second Edition, carefully Revised and Corrected. Longman and Co.

A Course of Practical Geometry: being an Introduction to every Branch of Mathematical Drawing. By W. Pease, C.E. Third Edition, Revised, Corrected, and Enlarged. By J. A. Pease. Relfe Brothers.

The "Lion-Killer," or, the Life and Adventures of Jules Gérard during his Ten Years' Campaigns among the Lions of Northern Africa. Condensed Edition for the Million. Lambert and Co.

The Life and Epistles of St. Paul, by Conybeare and Howson, has become a standard work in biblical literature, and brought honour on the English scholarship and criticism of our time. In the second edition, revised and corrected, the authors have striven to render the work more complete in itself, and more useful to the student of the scriptures and of history. The researches of the most recent travellers and commentators are embodied in the work; some notices, such as that of the discovery of the ancient city of Lasea, this year, by the Rev. G. Brown, in the yacht *St. Ursula*, being introduced while the sheets were passing through the press.

The Course of Practical Geometry, by Mr. Pease, late of the Royal Laboratory Department, Woolwich, revised and enlarged by Mr. J. A. Pease, of the Grammar School, Henley-on-Thames, is well adapted to serve as an introduction to the various branches of mathematical drawing. Its utility has been tested by competent teachers, and a testimonial in its favour is its being recommended by the Government Department of Science and Art.

The popularity of the subject of wild sports is attested by the demand for *The Lion-Killer*, or the Life and Adventures of Jules Gérard. To the numerous editions that have already appeared is now added "a condensed edition for the million," as the title-page terms it, in which the principal parts of the original narrative are given, with all the most wonderful stories of peril and adventure.

Miscellaneous, Pamphlets, &c.

Handbook for Travellers in Switzerland: with Routes through Belgium, Holland, and the Rhine. By Francis Coghlan. Tallant and Allen.

The Liberation of Abd-el-Kader: an Ode. Written for the Baptismal Fête of the Prince Imperial. Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.

The Scottish Philosophy: a Vindication and Reply. By the Rev. John Cairns, A.M. Edinburgh: Constable and Co.

History of the Parliamentary Representation of Preston during the last Hundred Years. By William Dobson. Preston, Dobson and Son.

First Principles of General Knowledge simply Explained. By Susanna M. Paull. For the Use of Schools. Relfe Brothers.

Notes of Lessons on the Collects of the Church of England. Part I. *Advent Sunday to Whit Sunday.* Compiled by Henry D. Brooke, C.L.S. Wertheim and Macintosh.

The History of Jean-Paul Choppart; or, the Surprising Adventures of a Runaway. Lambert and Co.

Dramatic Songs for Soprano, Contralto, Tenor, and Bass Voices. The Music composed by Edward F. Fitzwilliam. D'Almaine and Co.

THE makers and sellers of Guide Books are profiting largely by the public confidence restored to France since the assumption of Imperial power by Louis Napoleon. Mr. Coghlan complacently declares that France was never more prosperous, and fervently prays "that she may long enjoy her present repose and prosperity!" "It can no longer," he observes, with more feeling than grammar, "be a question of doubt whether English travellers shall visit Paris, or, as it has been for the last few years, shunned by the nervous and timid tourist." Many of these visitors will need guide-books, and Mr. Coghlan has provided a series combining the advantages of cheapness, conciseness, and general accuracy. Towards rival guide-books the author is not always civil. The introductory remarks and general hints on travelling contain some useful information, especially for pedestrian tourists. For those who have means and leisure for more than a brief excursion in the districts described, Mr. Coghlan's Guide-books will be found occasionally superficial, and in style somewhat uncouth, but the great set-off against their faults is, that they have been drawn up from personal observation, and with the aid of experienced travellers and tourists.

The Ode on the Liberation of Abd-el-Kader is noticeable only for the writer's fervid admiration of the Imperial liberator, whom Abd-el-Kader is made to speak of as "the elect to sovereignty sublime, and mightiest in the chronicles of Time."

Mr. Cairns's pamphlet refers to polemical and personal matters connected with the canvass for the Chair of Logic and Metaphysics in the University of Edinburgh. The election of Mr. Fraser, of whom Mr. Cairns was a zealous supporter, has removed the interest of the discussion, so far as personal claims were concerned.

The History of the Representation of Preston during the last hundred years is an interesting local chronicle, and suggestive of striking thoughts on national politics and history. The historian could derive some valuable notices from comparisons of such local records and narratives. The papers first appeared in the columns of the 'Preston Chronicle,' from which journal they are now reprinted.

Mrs. Paull's Manual of Questions and Answers on the First Principles of General Knowledge, forms an excellent text-book for teachers in im-

parting instruction on "common things." The present little volume is a continuation of a former series of questions on the same plan, but designed for younger pupils.

The History of Jean-Paul Choppart, or the Adventures of a Runaway, is translated, with condensation, from a tale that has been long popular on the Continent; but it is not so well suited for English readers, though containing some most amusing chapters. It forms one of a new series of publications, to be entitled the Entertaining Library, intended for younger readers than the Amusing Library, of the same publishers.

Mr. Fitzwilliam's Collection of Dramatic Songs, with pianoforte accompaniments, comprise six for bass or barytone, six for contralto, six for tenor, and six for soprano, with two or three supplementary lays. The words of the songs show a most miscellaneous list of authors, including Ben Jonson, Queen Elizabeth, J. B. Buckstone, Béranger, George Coleman, Kirke White, Sir Walter Scott, Bon Gaultier, and Mrs. Hemans. The music, by Mr. Fitzwilliam, is generally suitable to the strain and subject of the song, and often marked by striking and pleasing melody.

List of New Books.

Account of Prizes awarded by Miss B. Courts, 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
Arthur O'Leary, 12mo, bds., Railway Library, Vol. 119, 2s.
Bellew's (Rev. J. C. M.) Sermons, 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
Buddell's (J. W. F.) Sermons, 8vo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
Brewster's (Sir D.) Stereoscope, post 8vo, cloth, 5s. 6d.
Burns' (R.) Works, Library Edition, Vol. I., royal 8vo, cloth, 7s.
Cathcart's (Sir G.) Military Operations in Kaffraria, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
Cesari's Commentaries, First Six Books: Hamiltonian, 12mo, 7s. 6d.
Chambers's Educational Course: Modern History, 12mo, cl., 4s. 6d.
Clara Wilford, post 8vo, cloth, 10s.
Collier's (Rev. J. D.) Praxis Græca, Part II., 12mo, cloth, 6s.
Crampton's (J. N.) Fall of Sebastopol, 12mo, cloth, 5s. 6d.
Dickson's (W.) Records of a Ministry, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Dobell's (S.) England in Time of War, crown 8vo, cloth, 5s.
Dove's (P. E.) Logic of Christian Faith, 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
Frank's German Letter Writer, post 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Frossard's (E.) French Pastor at Seat of War, 12mo, cloth, 5s. 6d.
Hallam's Middle Ages, new edition, 3 vols. 8vo, cloth, 41 10s.
Hodgson's Capt. Voice from Sebastopol, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
Household Words, Vol. XIII., 8vo, cl., 5s. 6d.
Jackson's Stories on the Catechism, 12mo, cloth, Vol. III., 4s.
Keane's (B. H.) Palestine Museum, 12mo, cloth, 5s. 6d.
Kohlbrügge's (H. F.) Sermons on Peter, 2 vols. 8vo, sewed, 5s.
Laird's (S.) The Glass and its Victims, crown 8vo, cloth, 5s.
Lucas's (Rev. S.) Sermons on the Mystery of Godliness, cl., 2s. 6d.
Lund's (T. J.) Algebra, 3rd edition, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
Lyttelton's (Lord) Four Gospels, with Notes, post 8vo, cl., 8s. 6d.
Myer's Great Men, 2nd edition, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.
Montgomery's (J.) Memoirs, by Holland and Everett, Vol. 7, 10s. 6d.
Napier's War, 8vo, sewed, Part III., 5s.
Neale's (J. M.) Medieval Preaching, post 8vo, cloth, 7s.
Newland's Seasons of the Church, Vol. II., 12mo, cloth, 5s.
Oxenden's (A.) Earnest Communicant, 18mo, cloth, 1s.
Reynolds' (J. W.) Miracles of Our Lord, 12mo, cloth, 8s. 6d.
Robinson's (F. H.) Land Revenue of British India, fcap., cl., 5s.
Stanley's Sinai, 8vo, cloth, 2nd edition, 16s.
Tholuck on the Psalms, by Rev. J. Mombert, royal 8vo, cl., 12s. 6d.
Wilson's (J.) Lost Solar System of the Ancients, 2 vols. 8vo, cl., 5s.
Scamman's Wages Tables, 2nd edition, 8vo, cl., 10s.
World's Highway, 8vo, sewed, 2s. 6d.
Xenophon's Cyropaedia, with English Notes, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 6s.
Young (The) Lord, 2 vols. post 8vo, cloth, cl., 1s.

ARTICLES AND COMMUNICATIONS.

ENCOURAGEMENTS TO EDUCATION.—PRIZE SCHEMES.

IN the year 1852 an interesting experiment was tried in our system of elementary education. It has been repeated every year since then—and repeated with a certain amount of success. We allude to what is called the Prize Scheme. It was first suggested by Mr. Tremenhoe for the purpose of inducing children to remain at school somewhat longer than they were in the habit of doing. The necessity of some influence of the sort has long been felt. It increases as our schools increase. Indeed, it is a necessity which not only grows with the spread of education, but which appears to grow faster than it. In one of the reports of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, just presented to Parliament, we find it stated "That nearly one half of the children in elementary schools are under eight years of age, and that nearly one-third of their number have only been one year at school." After referring to the statistics of school attendance in the sixteen districts into which England and Wales is divided for the purpose of inspection, the same authority* says:—

"It cannot be considered effeminate or pusillanimous to avow, in the face of facts which prove that the works accom-

* Mr. Marshall's General Report for the year 1855, p. 607.

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plished in our primary schools is mainly infant education, and even this limited to a miserably scanty and insufficient period of time, that one is discouraged from speaking of merely technical matters, or from recording progress in certain points which have, relatively, a very inferior importance. It seems a kind of unreality to vaunt the improved qualifications of teachers, however reasonable the boast may be, when we have ascertained the character of their pupils, or to enumerate contemptibly the 'square feet,' a considerable arithmetical calculation, which make up the ever-increasing 'area' of school-buildings, when we know how fitfully and vagrantly they are tenanted."

Of the districts in the county of Stafford where the prize scheme was first established, it has been stated that a large majority of the children went to no school at all; that the few who went to school did so at seven years of age, and attended three or four days in the week for little more than a year; and, as might be expected, that such scholars forgot in a short time the little they had ever attempted to learn.

The first association that was formed to check this evil subscribed 160*l.* for prizes. A list of schools from which candidates could compete was prepared by Mr. Tremenheere, and the examination was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Norris, Her Majesty's Inspector. The prizes consisted of sums of money, of 4*l.* and 3*l.* each, and of books. On the first occasion eighty-six candidates were found to possess the necessary qualification; that is, to be eleven years old, and to have been two years at school. Of these ten boys received 4*l.* each, thirty boys received 3*l.* each, and forty-six received various small prizes. We learn from Mr. Norris's report that of the forty boys who got the money, seventeen put it in the savings-bank, ten laid it out on clothes, five gave it to their parents, two were apprenticed with it, one purchased books, and five devoted it to the immediate needs of the family. We also learn the important fact, that some children who had left school actually returned to it for the purpose of qualifying themselves for the examinations.

Since '52 the scheme has been worked, though on a small scale, with great energy; and various modifications in its details have been made. The rules of one of the Staffordshire associations may be taken as a fair specimen of the present system:

"For the Quarto Bible.—Candidates to be boys or girls who can produce Certificates:—

"1. That they have attended for two years, and are still attending, some school or schools approved by the association and under Government inspection. (N.B. In the case of schools recently opened, attendance since the opening will be accepted.)

"2. That they have completed their eleventh year.

"3. That their character and progress in religious instruction be satisfactory.

"N.B. Regular attendance is defined to mean, attendance on 176 days in the twelve months.

"For the £3 Prize.—Candidates to be boys or girls who can produce Certificates:—

"1. That they have already gained the preceding prize.

"2. That they have continued to attend, and are still attending, the same school regularly.

"3. That their character and progress in religious knowledge continue to be satisfactory.

"For the £5 Prize.—Candidates to be boys who can produce Certificates signed by their Minister, and also by some Member of the Association:—

"1. That they have gained one or both of the preceding prizes.

"2. That they have completed their fifteenth, and have not completed their eighteenth year.

"3. That they are employed in connexion with the works of some member of the association.

"4. That their character is good.

"5. That they have attended some Sunday school; a preference being given to those who have also attended some drawing school or evening school."

The expediency of the principle was acknowledged by Lord John Russell in one of the Resolutions lately submitted by him to the House of Commons. Lord Granville is patron of the North Staffordshire Association, and other influential members of the legislature have in their own localities supported it. It has also attracted the attention of some of the educationists in our colonies, more particularly in New South Wales, where the Governor-General has given it the warmest encouragement. In his Report for 1854-5, Mr. Norris discusses at some length the subject of rewards as a part of the philosophy of education, and lays down certain rules on which practical efforts should be based. His remarks are deserving of much attention. In one or two points

we believe they are somewhat erroneous. He founds them, perhaps, on too high an estimate of human nature, and he does not appear to recognise sufficiently the force of habit and the influence of special circumstances. As an abstract proposition, he may convince his readers 'That prizes should not be given for good behaviour,' which is his third rule, but it seems to us that worldly experience, as well as moral precepts drawn from the very highest source, negative such a principle.

Nor can we concur with Mr. Norris, and the other managers of the prize scheme, as to the judiciousness of giving pecuniary rewards. They should remember that the labour market is competing with the school; that such competition is not essentially bad in itself, but is rather a symptom of general prosperity; and that it should be met, as far as inducement is concerned, in the most indirect manner possible. The children, and even the parents of the children, on whom these experiments are tried, cannot fully comprehend the object of the prize scheme. They know nothing about its principles, and are cognizant only of its immediate and practical influence. A child that gets half-a-crown a week for working in the potteries may be purchased off by a prize scheme that would give it 5*l.* all at once. The parents would probably prefer to see the child earn the 5*l.* by staying at school than by going to work. But this teaches the labouring population a very false lesson in [practical] political economy. No doubt some children care more for the honour of the prize than for the money. But if there are any children who have a different feeling, who esteem the prize chiefly for its intrinsic value, then we must confess that to such children it does a certain amount of harm. But, apart from such considerations, we would impress upon the attention of the promoters of this scheme a principle which we believe will be found to be true in its general application, but which we cannot now stop to discuss—that the only influences which can be brought to bear with any success against the employers of labour are those which the employers themselves cannot use.

In contemplating any general extension of the prize scheme it is not unimportant to determine its position in a financial point of view. This appears to have been very much overlooked, and none of its advocates have put forward any definite conclusion on the subject. We have, however, taken some of the data in Mr. Norris's report, and have attempted to calculate what the average expense per child might be. We find that this average expense amounts to about 1*l.* 5*s.*, while the cost of educating a child is not much more, according to Sir J. P. Kay Shuttleworth, than 16*s.* per annum.

BRITISH MUSEUM.—MANUSCRIPTS.

WE this week present Sir Frederick Madden's last official report, as Keeper of the national Department of Manuscripts.

1. The sheets completing the Catalogue of Additions for 1846, from T to CC inclusive, have been sent to press; a portion of the Catalogue for 1847 has been revised; and the copy for 1852 is in a state of great forwardness. 2. The Egerton Manuscripts, from No. 1571 to No. 1622 inclusive, acquired in 1853, have been described in detail. 3. Many additional slips have been written for the completion of the Catalogue of Maps and Topographical Drawings. 4. The brief Catalogue or Register of the Additional Manuscripts placed in the Reading-room has been continued from July 1854 to June 1855 inclusive. 5. The Cottonian Charters and Papers damaged in the fire of 1731, and hitherto undescribed, have been entered in the Charter Catalogue, forming about 150 articles. 6. The Additional Charters and Rolls have been described, with indexes of names and places, from No. 2690 to No. 2986 inclusive. 7. Twenty-three volumes in Arabic, and eighty-four in Sanscrit, Hindi, and Bengali, have been described in detail for the general catalogues of these classes of manuscripts; and the Index to the Second Part and

Supplement of the Arabic Catalogue has been continued. 8. The General Catalogue of the Persian Manuscripts has been classified, and Indexes of the authors' names and titles of works completed. This Catalogue, forming four volumes in folio, is placed in the Reading-room. 9. One hundred and one volumes in Syriac have been described in detail for the General Catalogue of this class, and three others re-collated. 10. The General Catalogue of Hebrew Manuscripts is approaching to its completion. 11. The general classified Inventory of the Oriental Manuscripts has been kept up to the present time. 12. Indexes and Tables of Contents have been made to the Harleian Manuscripts 6986, 7002, to 7006, 7011 and 7012; and transcribed fair into the Cottonian Julius D. III.; Harleian 7007; and Additional 15,918, 15,919. 13. The arrangement of the Lowe Papers has been completed in 134 volumes; and also of the Gualterio Papers, in 446 volumes. 14. The Additional Manuscripts (including the acquisitions up to December 1855) have been, with few exceptions, arranged, numbered, prepared for the binder, and registered, from No. 20,006 to No. 21,209 inclusive; bound, repaired, and lettered, from No. 19,948 to No. 20,164, No. 20,241 to No. 20,279, and No. 20,687 to No. 21,139; and stamped from No. 19,948 to No. 20,155, No. 20,241 to No. 20,279, and No. 20,687 to No. 21,027. 15. The Additional Charters and Rolls have been numbered from No. 8793 to No. 10,116 inclusive; registered from No. 1263 to No. 1585, and from No. 8666 to No. 9059; and stamped from No. 8666 to No. 9462. 16. The Egerton Manuscripts have been arranged, numbered, prepared for the binder, and registered, from No. 1656 to No. 1663; bound and lettered, from No. 1337 to No. 1498, and from No. 1647 to No. 1655; and stamped, from No. 1337 to No. 1422. 17. Four hundred and eighty-six of the Additional Manuscripts have been folio'd, as also three Cottonian, sixteen Harleian, two Old Royal, and three Egerton Manuscripts. 18. Stamps have been placed upon every tract, letter, or separate document, in 16 volumes of the Cottonian Collection, 1101 of the Sloane, 2 of the Harleian, 94 of the Egerton, and 717 of the Additional Manuscripts, with 95 Books of Reference. The Charters and Rolls stamped are 81 Cottonian, 569 Harleian, and 822 Additional. The total number of stamps affixed amounts to 44,155. 19. Considerable portions of the Cottonian Manuscripts on vellum, marked Tiberius A. XII. and XV., Galba A. XIV., XV. and XX., Otho B. IV. and D. I., and Vitellius A. V., D. XV., E. I., II., III., VIII., XII., and F. I. (injured in the fire of 1731), have been identified and inlaid. The whole number of loose vellum leaves and fragments inlaid during the year amounts to 2629. Two Old Royal Manuscripts (damaged in the same fire) have also been flattened, inlaid, and rebound. 20. Twenty-three Cottonian, 16 Sloane, 90 Harleian, 28 Old Royal, 1 Lansdowne, 140 Egerton, and 814 Additional Manuscripts, with 90 Books of Reference, have been bound, repaired, or lettered. Upwards of 1600 volumes of various collections have been press-marked, or have had the press-marks altered. 21. The Additional Charters and Rolls have been cleaned, repaired, and marked, from No. 8666 to No. 9561 inclusive; together with 194 Cottonian, and 1549 Harleian Charters; and boxes have been made for them. 22. During the progress of the workmen in glazing the presses of the Gallery in the Middle Room of the department, about 4500 Oriental Manuscripts have been moved, and are now restored to their places. The whole of the various collections have been twice dusted and cleaned, and portions of them three and four times. 23. The additions made to the department in the course of the year are as follows:—To the General Collection—Manuscripts, 523; Original Charters and Rolls, 2460; Seals and Impressions, 8. To the Egerton Collection—Manuscripts, 8. Among the acquisitions more worthy of notice may be mentioned:—The Diplomatic Correspondence and Papers of Sebastiao Jozo Carvalho e Mello (Portuguese Ambassador at London and Vienna, and subsequently known as the Marquis de Pombal),

from 1738 to 1747; with above sixty volumes relating to the history of the Portuguese possessions in India and Brazil, during the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries; and an equal number of volumes concerning the history and commerce of Portugal, England, France, and Spain, during the same period and earlier: all acquired at the sale of the library of the late Lord Stuart de Rothesay. Six volumes of the Collections of T. F. Dukes, for the Parochial and Ecclesiastical History of Shropshire; and eleven volumes of Drawings of Churches and Antiquities, with copies of Monumental Inscriptions, &c., by D. Parkes, relating to the same county. Many volumes of Original Rentals, Extents, Assessments, Court-Books, &c., of Lands in the county of Suffolk, from the 15th to the 18th century; with about 1130 Original Suffolk Charters, from the 13th to the 17th century. An extremely fine copy, in two volumes folio, of the Shah Jehan Nama, containing the history of part of the reign of the Mogul Emperor, Shah Jehan, composed by Adul Hamid Lahori, who died in 1654; with many very beautiful miniatures. This copy was in the library of the King of Delhi, in 1815. A very early and well-written copy of the Shah Nama of Firdausi, written A.H. 675 = A.D. 1276. A Poem written in Oordoo (Hindustani), by His Majesty the King of Oude, entitled, 'A Tale of Love,' and lithographed at the royal press of Lucknow; presented by H.M. the King of Oude. A fine copy, on vellum, of the beginning of the 14th century, of the Fuero or Code of Laws, compiled by order of Alphonso el Sabio, King of Castile, in the years 1256—1265; with small but valuable miniatures, executed in Spain. A beautiful volume, containing the Spanish translation of the Ethics of Aristotle, made by Don Carlos, Prince of Viana, in 1457, for his uncle, Alphonso V., King of Aragon and Sicily; and, apparently, the copy intended for presentation. It is written on the finest vellum, with illuminated borders, initial letters, and shields of arms. A remarkably fine copy of the 'Grandes Chroniques de Saint Denis,' ending with the accession of Charles VI. in 1380, and written not many years afterwards; on vellum, large folio. A volume containing the Hours of the Virgin, and other offices, adorned with exquisite miniatures, executed by the celebrated Giulio Clovio, about the year 1535, for his patron Cardinal Marino Grimani, whose arms are on the second leaf; in the original binding, with silver-gilt clasps. A copy, on vellum, of the 10th century, of a Lexicon in Tironian characters, with Latin interpretations; formerly in the library of P. Pithou, and latterly in the De Rosny collection. A valuable historical volume, containing the Lives of Dagobert, Charlemagne, and Louis the Pious, by various authors; with the Annals ascribed to Eginhard, and the 'Res gestæ Saxonice' of Witikind of Corby; on vellum, of the 11th century. Original Book of Indentures on vellum, between Henry VII. and John Islippe, Abbot of Westminster, for the performance of certain religious services in the Abbey, dated 16th July, 1504. Twelve volumes of original documents relating to the Fiefs, &c., of St. Maurille, Villechien, l'Épinay, N. D. de Ronceray, and La Leu, in the vicinity of Angers; from the year 1200 to 1684. An additional portion of the series of Transcripts from the Archives at the Hague, of papers relating to English history, from 1615 to 1632; in five volumes. A large collection of Maps and Plans of France, particularly of Picardy and Dauphiny, beautifully executed with the pen, and coloured, between the years 1602 and 1609; in a large folio volume. A series of Letters of State, above 400 in number, signed by Louis XIV. and Louis XV., between the years 1673 and 1717. A considerable number of Autographs, among which are Letters of Melancthon and Bucer, Charles I., Queen Mary (1692-4), Sarah Duchess of Marlborough, Frederick Prince of Wales, and the Princess Augusta (1745), Davenant, Akenside, Sterne, and others; the Petition of Remonstrance from the Irish House of Parliament to Charles I. (1640), signed by the Members; the original Petition of Simon Pendril to Charles II.; the original

Assignment of one-half part of the 'Spectator,' by Addison and Steele, in 1712; some Poems of Burns, including 'The Cotter's Saturday Night,' and his biographical Letter to Dr. Moore, 2nd Aug. 1787; the holograph Manuscript of 'Kenilworth,' by Sir Walter Scott; and two Letters of the same writer, of much interest, addressed to Dr. Dibdin, 1st May, 1823, and to Mr. Terry, 2nd May, 1823. 24. The number of deliveries of Manuscripts to readers in the Reading-rooms, during the twelve-month, amounts to 20,984, and to artists and others, in the rooms of the Department, to 4355, exclusive of the numerous volumes examined by visitors.

FREDERIC MADDEN.

GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

CONSIDERING the dulness of the publishing season, the quarterly announcements of works preparing for publication are not without interest. Messrs. Longman and Co. advertise a 'Life of Michael Angelo Buonarroti,' with a series of engravings illustrative of the works of the great painter, including memoirs of Savonarola and Vittoria Colonna, and much contemporary history, by Dr. John S. Harford, F.R.S.; another volume of Arago's works, 'Lives of Distinguished Scientific Men'; translations of Dr. J. Van der Hoeven's 'Handbook of Zoology,' and M. Quatrefages' 'Rambles of a Naturalist on the Coasts of France, Spain, and Italy'; Dr. Barth's 'Travels and Discoveries in Central Africa'; Captain Sir R. McClure's 'Narrative of the Discovery of the North-West Passage'; the completion of the late James Silk Buckingham's 'Autobiography,' and several educational works. Mr. Murray announces 'Selections from the Correspondence of Charles, First Marquis Cornwallis, including letters of George III., Pitt, Castlereagh, and others,' edited from the family papers by Charles Ross, Esq.; 'Lives of the Two Scaligers,' by the Rev. Mark Pattison, B.D.; 'The Early Flemish Painters,' by J. A. Crowe and G. B. Cavalcaselle; 'Some Account of Circassia and the Caucasus,' by H. Danby Seymour, M.P.; 'Letters from Head Quarters, or the Realities of the War in the Crimea,' by an Officer on the Staff; 'A Voice from within the Walls of Sebastopol,' and the Rev. G. Rawlinson's long-expected 'History of Herodotus.' Mr. R. Moncton Milnes, M.P., contributes a memoir of Thomas Hood to the forthcoming volume of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' and an important archaeological work, by Mr. John M. Kemble, is announced, under the title of 'Horse Ferales.'

Professor De Morgan gave a lecture on Wednesday, at the Society of Arts, on the proposed decimal system of coinage. As to the advantages of counting by tens and twenties, instead of fours and twelves, there was but one feeling; but the difficulty lay in deciding whether the reckoning should ascend from a low unit or descend from the standard of a pound sterling. The Professor strongly advocated the latter, and affirmed that the English people would as easily give up trial by jury, or the Habeas Corpus Act, as the use of the pound, with which they were familiar. All that is required to establish a good decimal system of money is to make 25 instead of 24 farthings in the shilling. Every coin now in use might be retained, the innovation and improvement not being in the business of trade, but in the keeping of accounts on the new system.

The Council of the Archaeological Institute have issued the following general programme of proceedings for the annual meeting to be held next week at Edinburgh:—*Tuesday, July 22*: The reception room will be at the Royal Hotel, 53, Princes-street.—Inaugural meeting at the Queen-street Rooms at twelve: Congratulatory address from the Lord Provost.—The Temporary Museum of the Institute will be opened at the National Gallery.—Evening meeting at the Queen-street Rooms. *Wednesday, July 23*: Meetings of Sections (History, Antiquities, Architecture) for reading Memoirs, &c., at ten.—Examination of the ancient buildings, sites of historical interest, the

Castle, Heriot's Hospital, &c., on this or subsequent days, as circumstances may permit, in connexion with papers on those subjects by Mr. Robert Chambers, F.S.A.S., and other gentlemen.—Evening meeting. *Thursday, July 24*: Excursion to the Tweedside Abbeys: Jedburgh, Melrose, Dryburgh.—Full particulars in regard to this and the subsequent excursions will be announced at the reception room. *Friday, July 25*: Meetings of Sections at the Queen-street Rooms.—Excursion to Dirleton Castle, an early example of castellated architecture, of high interest; Christopher Nisbet Hamilton, Esq., M.P., the possessor of the Castle, having invited the Institute, and kindly offered a collation there.—Evening meeting. *Saturday, July 26*: Excursion to Dunblane, Stirling, Linlithgow, the Roman camp at Ardoch, the vestiges of the Wall of Antonius, and other objects of interest which may be accessible. *Monday, July 28*: Meetings of Sections in the earlier part of the day.—Excursion to Borthwick Castle, Hawthornden, and Roslin. *Tuesday, July 29*: Annual meeting of members of the Institute for election of members, &c.—Meeting for reading Memoirs of interest, for which time may have been insufficient on previous occasions.—General concluding meeting. On one of the evenings towards the close of the week, a conversazione will take place at the Museum of the Institute, in the National Gallery, which will be lighted up on the occasion. All persons disposed to contribute antiquities, examples of ancient art and manufactures, historical reliques, &c., for exhibition, are requested to communicate, at their earliest convenience, with John Stuart, Esq., Hall of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, 24, George-street, Edinburgh, where any objects sent for exhibition may be addressed previously to the meeting. By the kind permission of the Deputy-Clerk-Register of Scotland, a chronological series of Scottish charters from the earliest period, and a selection of interesting historical documents, will be submitted to inspection in Her Majesty's General Register House, each day (Saturday excepted), from two to three o'clock, on producing the ticket for the meeting. The Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, 24, George-street, comprising a very extensive and valuable collection of antiquities, historical reliques, &c., will, by kind permission of the Council, be open to the Institute throughout the week.

The Museum of Antiquities at Cirencester is now in the course of arrangement by Professor Buckman, previous to the visit of the British Association, on their assembling next month at Cheltenham. The Roman pavement discovered in Dyer-street about ten years since has been carefully removed and laid down in the floor of the Museum, occupying nearly the whole area, and the manner in which this has been effected, under the superintendence of Professor Buckman—whose zeal for the preservation of every relic that relates to ancient Corinium cannot be too highly commended or too highly valued by his fellow-townsmen—will delight the antiquarian visitor. Among the many objects of interest preserved here, is one of the three sepulchral stones (and it will be the standing reproach of the people of Cirencester that one only is in the Museum of their town) discovered at Watermoor about twenty years since. It is probably as late as the days of the Antonines, and is inscribed to the memory of Dannicus, a horseman of the Indian wing. The other stone, also inscribed to the memory of a Roman stipendiary, is, we believe, in private hands. They are the subject of an interesting dissertation by Dr. Conrad Leemans, of Leyden, in the 30th volume of the *Archæologia*. There is also a sepulchral slab, inscribed DM. IVLLAE. CASTAE. CONIVGI. VIX. ANN. XXXIII.; another, a fragment only, bearing a female name in very rude characters. A very pretty bas-relief, with the figure of Mercury, accompanied by his attributes, the purse and caduceus, a ram and a cock standing near him, presented by Mr. Mullings, finds an appropriate place here. Three or four glass cases, provided, we believe, at the expense of Lord Bathurst, are filled with various miscellaneous objects of the Roman era, discovered

during recent excavations in the extensive nurseries near the town. We take this opportunity of urging on the antiquaries of Gloucestershire, and all who possess antiquities found within the county, the propriety of their temporary deposit in the Cirencester Museum, on the occasion of the contemplated visit of the members of the British Association. From such an assemblage much might be learnt of the former state and condition of this district of Britain.

The Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries held its Anniversary Meeting lately, at the Palace of Christiansborg; its President, Frederick VII., the King of Denmark, in the chair. Professor Ch. Rafn, the Secretary, communicated an account of the operations of the Society during the past year, and exhibited the new volume of the 'Annals of Northern Archaeology and History,' the new number of the Society's Review; and of the 'Mémoires des Antiquaires du Nord.' He also laid before the Society the second part of the 'Lexicon Poëticum' of the Icelandic, compiled by Sveinbjörn. Amongst the articles in the Annals, may be especially noticed, King Oswald his Heliges, (the holy) Saga, with a Preface by Jon Sigurdsson, and a Translation by Thorl. G. Repp; also a Notice on 'Virdaland's Ancient History,' by Professor A. Cronholm, of Lund; and a Grammar of the Færøe language, by the Rev. V. U. Hammer-shaimb, of North Stræamey. In the 'Antiquarian Tidsskrift,' we found papers on the *Old-English and Old-Norsk*, by Gisle Brynjulfsson; on the Ancient Languages of the North, by G. E. Lund; 'Old Norsk Remains among the Orkneys,' by G. Petrie, Esq., of Kirkwall; Antiquarian Contributions from Slavic Lands, and Monuments of the Bosphorus, by Edwin M. Thorson; Report on the Cabinet of American Antiquities, by Ch. Rafn. In the just published number of the 'Mémoires,' are Papers on Runic Inscriptions in Sodor and Man; with a geographical elucidation of the Irish and Scottish names occurring in the Tagus, by P. A. Munck; the Saga of St. Edward, the King, with an Introduction by Rafn and Sigurdsson; Remarks on a Danish Runic Stone, from the *eleventh* century, lately discovered in the centre of London, with Runic Inscriptions, alluding to the Western Countries, by Rafn; and, finally, one by Brynjulfsson, entitled, 'De l'ancien roman français, et de l'influence exercée sur son développement par les Normands.' The King next communicated to the Meeting the results of the researches which he had carried out among the ancient Royal Sepulchres at the Cathedral at Ringsted, in Seeland; upon which the Vice-President, C. F. Wegener, read a Mémoire on the tombs of King Waldemar the Great, and his Queen Sophia, daughter of Volodimir of Russia. The Secretary, Professor Rafn, then read a statement of the progress made during the last year in deciphering the Runic inscriptions, so numerous in Scandinavia, an account of which he was preparing for publication. Among the names who are mentioned as having been elected during the past year, we are glad to see those of Sir John Bowring, and Major Andrew Lang, of St. Croix.

The recently published number of the 'Edinburgh Review' (July, No. 211) has a note on the Suez Canal, in which a reply is made to the second pamphlet of M. de Lesseps, and to M. Barthélemy de St. Hilaire's strictures on the article on the subject in the January number of the 'Review.' The note does not add materially to the facts or arguments of the case. The reviewer admits that some of the objections to the canal are diminished by M. St. Hilaire's statements, and concludes with the general remark that "nothing has been produced which at all invalidates the assertion of this journal—that the construction of a first-rate port at Pelusium is a more difficult engineering operation than has yet been accomplished anywhere; and that the Red Sea is, and must remain, comparatively useless to the commerce of the world, so long as sails continue to be the principal mode of propulsion used to work our argosies across the ocean." (See *ante*, p. 398.) The real difficulty of the scheme, as we have

shown, lies in the shallowness of the water at Suez, and still more at Pelusium, which would involve the building of jetties and works of enormous length, while the shifting soil and sand would renew the shoals, and require a ruinous outlay for keeping open the entrance for ships to the isthmus.

Professor Fraser, of New College, Edinburgh, has been elected the successor of Sir William Hamilton, Bart., in the chair of Logic and Metaphysics in the University. The contest latterly lay between Professor Fraser and Professor Ferrier, of St. Andrew's University, the final vote in the Town Council being 17 to 14. In a previous vote the numbers were—Ferrier, 12; Fraser, 11; and 8 for Principal Scott, of Manchester, formerly of the University of London. The names of the following candidates were withdrawn before the vote: The Rev. Dr. Macvicar, the Rev. Dr. Stowell, Messrs. M'Kee, Waddell, and Dove, author of the Theory of Human Progression. The result of the election has given general satisfaction in Edinburgh, the contest turning less on the personal claims of the two leading candidates than on the merits of the systems of which they were deemed the representatives, Mr. Ferrier belonging to the German metaphysical school, and Mr. Fraser being a disciple of the Scottish philosophy of Reid, Dugald Stewart, and Sir W. Hamilton.

The Council of King's College have received from a friend of the late Sir Robert Harry Inglis, Bart., the sum of 500*l.* as a memorial gift, to be applied for the benefit of the College, in the prosperity of which the worthy baronet always felt a deep interest. It is proposed to defer the consideration of the employment of the gift, in the hope that other donors may be induced to add contributions, so that the fund may be associated with some object worthy of the name of which it is to be a memorial.

The London and Middlesex Archaeological Society hold their first annual general meeting on Thursday next, at the Architectural Museum, when a tour of inspection will be made of the monuments of Westminster Abbey, under the guidance of Mr. G. Gilbert Scott and the Rev. C. Boutell. In the evening the members will hold a *conversazione* in the Architectural Museum.

The Americans are meditating a handsome compliment to the British nation, in the gift of the Arctic ship *Resolute*, which, it will be remembered, was recovered from the ice, where it had been abandoned, and taken to Boston in the States. A vote of 40,000 dollars for salvage to the captors has passed the Senate unanimously, on the proposal of Mr. Mason, son of George Mason, the friend of Washington. It is expected that the vote will also be carried in the House of Representatives. The *Resolute* was Captain Kellet's ship, in 'the last of the Arctic voyages,' commanded by Captain Sir Edward Belcher.

The New York papers mention that Mr. Hugh Miller, the well-known Scottish geologist and genial writer, intends visiting the states shortly, on a lecturing tour.

The French Emperor, some time ago, decreed that a sum of 30,000 francs (1200*l.*) should be paid, in three annual instalments, to the author of the best work on the most excellent discovery during the last five years, and his Majesty charged the Institute to dispose of the prize. The award has just taken place. The Academy of Sciences proposed that the grant should be awarded to M. Fizeau, for his experiments on the rapidity with which light travels; and this recommendation having been adopted by a majority of the members of the other four academies, which, with the Academy of Sciences, form the Institute, was adopted. Each of the said four Academies was called on to make recommendations as well as the Academy of Sciences:—the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences said that it had no one to recommend, no work of distinguished merit having appeared during the last five years in its domain: the French Academy proposed that the prize should be divided between M. de Laprade, a poet, and M. Beulé, author of a work on the Acropolis of Athens; the Academy of Fine Arts recommended the same M.

Beulé for the said work, and for his artistic discoveries; and the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres recommended M. Botta and M. Place, formerly consuls at Mossul, for their explorations of the ruins of Nineveh.

A small work, entitled 'A Descriptive Catalogue of the Grüne Gewölbe,' has been published within the last few days in Dresden. 'The Green Vaults' in the palace of the kings of Saxony, as is well known to all travellers, contain countless treasures of incredible value which have been accumulating for centuries; these consist in pearls, diamonds, carvings in wood and ivory, some rare bronzes, antique goblets, china and glass—in short, every conceivable article of costly and useless *verbi*. It would be easier to enumerate what these long, low, dull vaults do not contain in their gloomy chambers, than what they do. The visitor is hurried through the rooms, which are lined from floor to ceiling with these treasures, and a very civil and intelligent custode gives all the information he can in his rapid flight. A descriptive catalogue in English, such as that now published for the use of strangers, has long been wanted. The traveller can now note beforehand what is most worthy of remark, and direct his attention more particularly to the objects which will especially interest him, for here will be found works unique in their kind, suited to the most varied and capricious taste. The author of the Guide is the son of one of the care-takers of the vaults, and has had every means of making his work useful and valuable; there are many topographical errors and considerable carelessness in printing in this Guide, but these are faults more than compensated by its advantages. Another most useful and valuable publication has just been brought out in Dresden; it is a new railway map for central Europe, by Dr. Julius Michaelis, the best and clearest which has yet appeared. It contains, in addition to the lines already opened, those in progress and those projected, and gives a fuller list of the stations on each road than any other map. Each line in the three classes is marked differently, and numbered with figures corresponding to others in an index, so that the traveller or shareholder can at once turn to the line he wants.

The German papers say that the late Baron Sina, a great banker at Vienna, and a Greek, has bequeathed a million drachmas for the establishment of an Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg; but later accounts assert that, even if he has left any legacy for the purpose, which is not quite certain, it is very much less indeed than that amount.

Another explorer of Central Africa has fallen a victim to the terrible climate—M. Couturier, a young Frenchman. He died, it appears, some months back, at Brezina, an oasis in the Sahara, where he was stopping to learn some of the native languages.

Dr. Carus, Physician to the Court of Saxony, known to the public from his profound writings on psychological subjects, has been created a Knight of the order of Danebrog, for his literary attainments, by the King of Denmark.

A Statue of Thierry Martens, who restored the typographical art in Belgium, has just been inaugurated, with a good deal of pomp, in Alost, his native town.

FINE ARTS.

The Scenery of Greece and its Islands, illustrated by Fifty Views sketched from Nature, executed on Steel, and described en Route: with a Map of the Country. By William Linton.

THE eminent artist whose name appears on the title-page of this work has now completed a permanent memorial of his visit to Greece, and his delightful labours in that classic region. Our readers may remember that shortly after his return, Mr. Linton submitted to the inspection of a large number of his friends, and of the patrons of the arts, a series of drawings, chiefly in oil, numbering nearly three

hundred, as the result of his exertions during a fifteen months' tour on the Continent and among the islands of Greece. Out of that collection the artist has now selected fifty, which have been etched by him, and are arranged in the present volume so as to form a series illustrating a narrative of the tour of himself and his party. The whole work is an admirable combination of various merits, and is highly creditable to English art, English taste, and English literature.

Hitherto the ideas which are prevalent about the condition and state of Greece have been mostly drawn from the works of travellers who were mere antiquarians. Much has been said about the temples and ruins, the supposed sites of stadia, and the tracks of walls; but little has been done towards the delineation of the natural scenery of the country. Dr. Wordsworth's volume was no doubt a brilliant exception; but the pictorial element even there was only subservient to the archaeological. In this work of Mr. Linton's the artistic view of the question is the leading one, and classical quotations and reminiscences come in only as an appendage to the magnificent and lovely visions to which the eye and the hand of the artist introduce us. The first tour of Mr. Linton's party was commenced from Athens, and proceeded by the pass of Phyle to Thebes and Delphi, and back by Eleusis to Athens again. Thence they visited Ægina, Syra, Delos, Hydra, and Poros. A third journey formed the circuit of the Morea. Landing at Epidaurus, in the Gulf of Ægina, they visited Nauplia, Argos, Tripolitza, Sparta; from thence Messene and the valley of the Alphæus; then the north of the peninsula up to Corinth. Proceeding along the southern coast of the Gulf of Corinth to Missolonghi, the author concludes his diary with a few observations on the British islands, Zante, Cephalonia, and Corfu. The views in and about Athens; which commence the series, beautiful as they are, convey little that is new, so familiar have these features become; but a splendid view of the whole of the Athenian plain, from the head of the pass of Phyle, has not only been admirably chosen in a pictorial point of view, but illustrates usefully the character of the northern frontier of Attica. Thebes is the next subject; and here it becomes necessary to say that Mr. Linton's pen and his pencil are somewhat at variance. Thebes is described as situated among a crowd of immense sand-hills—wretched amid ruins, mean in appearance, dismantled of towers and walls which were standing two centuries ago in the time of Wheeler. It is figured as a large mass of dwellings picturesquely grouped on the slopes of an extensive hill, with lofty prominent buildings crowning the ridge, and an aqueduct of at least twelve arches, in perfect preservation, stretching away to the right, out of the picture. Which description is the true one? It can scarcely be doubted that the enthusiasm which inspired the artist deserted the traveller, and the enchantments furnished by atmosphere, distance, and well-chosen points of view, became dispelled before the practical discomforts met with in the modern capital of Boeotia. The town, pass, and castle of Lavadia have never been so well described before, though Dodwell in his tour has left a most animated account of the cave of Trophonius, situated in this glen. The site of the ancient oracle is still venerated by the Christian population. Mount Parnassus now becomes a leading

feature in the scenery; and the well-known view of Delphi under its cliffs is repeated with admirable effect. Nothing can be grander or more expressive of true mountain character than this engraving. The view of the Acropolis, which completes this part of the tour, is another admirable subject. The angles of the various buildings are all thrown into strong light and shade; and the shadows on the Acropolis are remarkably well toned down, being strongest on the far left, and gradually lighter as they approach the sunlight, whilst gradations of distance are represented by similar methods, with equal success.

In a sort of "excursus" which occurs here on Statue and Temple Painting, Mr. Linton goes lightly over the whole of this vexed question. The result of his views as to the facts of the case, and his opinion as an artist on the practice of painting statues, cannot better be given than in his own language:—

"Canova is related by Bourrienne to have proved to the first Emperor Napoleon, by examples drawn from the Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, and Italians, that religion alone had caused the arts to flourish in ancient as well as in modern times. The blocks of wood and stone, which were the earliest objects of religious worship in Greece, as elsewhere, were painted with brilliant colours, gilded, silvered, and clothed with real drapery. As time advanced, when materials improved, and imitative art began to dawn, the sculptor was called in to give form and grace and beauty to the rude idol; but that any special grace to dispense with these decorations was shown to public sculptures in marble, which was not granted to those of wood or stone, can only be conjectured from the numerous statues which have descended to us entirely free from colour; unless, which is not improbable, they were executed under private influences, free from sacerdotal mandates and ordinances, and for the honour and glory of art alone: for the great fame of the chryselephantine statues, by Phidias, would seem to prove that varied colours, ivory, gold, and precious stones, were not considered derogatory to the dignity or beauty of a public religious work of art, when even such costly and parti-coloured materials were employed in their construction, and this, too, in the palmiest days of Grecian sculpture.

"This decorative system being once established, its continuance as a religious art-practice must have become imperative; since, by long usage, it cannot but have so associated itself, in the popular mind, with the forms and characters of the several deities represented, as to render any attempt at its discontinuance almost an act of sacrilege. In these days, however, the tawdry attributes of the pagan divinities can have no interest with the true artist, except as historical curiosities, now the divinities themselves are banished from the civilized globe; nor do they possess any rightful claim to be admitted into the practice of the sculptor's art (great as was the authority, in ancient times, which sanctioned their employment for special and nationally sacred purposes), since they never constituted an integral portion of that art, but were merely a religious infliction upon it. A slight glance at the conditions on which sculpture is based as an imaginative art, will be sufficient to show that it cannot combine with painting, without sacrificing its high character."

Passing to the tour among the Greek islands which forms the second part of the work, an exquisite silvery sketch of Delos and the neighbouring Cyclades is to be noticed. At Hydra, Mr. Linton was detained four days in quarantine on the island, owing to some unusual circumstances; and on this occasion he proceeds to relate the remarkable civility of the commandant of the garrison, who, hearing of the author's dilemma, sent

for his baggage to his private domicile, and "without either personal interview or letter of introduction, gave up his bed to the stranger, and caused a temporary one to be erected for himself in the open air!" Hospitality of this devoted kind certainly demands every possible recognition.

Mr. Linton's journey in the Morea was the most extensive, and in many ways the most interesting part of his travels in Greece. The country has been less explored, many parts of it imperfectly represented, and the judgment of an experienced landscape artist has never yet been pronounced as to its actual and relative merits in point of scenery. From the extensive and admirable descriptions which accompany the illustrations, a few remarks only can be extracted, bearing more particularly upon the subject of landscape art. On crossing the promontory of Argolis between Epidaurus and Nauplia, Mr. Linton observes that the scenery is so like Gaspar Poussin's, that one would imagine the artist to have formed his style of composition there, and merely to have visited Italy for the buildings he meant to introduce. In the south of the Peloponnesus he notices also the resemblance to Claude's composition, and thinks the scenery of the Morea more akin to that which Claude painted than the Italian landscape, where the air is drier and the outlines harder than in Greece. The view of Sparta from the plain of the Eurotas, with Mount Taygeton in the background, is one of the finest drawings in the series. The effect is that of sunshine rapidly alternating with showers; and the sparkling shifting contrasts of light and shadow are beautifully rendered. The mountain at the back is also an object of great grandeur. A night scene in the valley of the Neda, imperfectly rendered by this as it would be by any efforts of art, has however been graphically described by the author. At the head of this valley, at Basse, stands the celebrated Temple of Apollo Epicurius, built by Ictinus, the architect of the Parthenon. The marbles that adorned this building are in the British Museum. The valley of the Alphæus and the plain of Elis are next described by Mr. Linton in terms of the greatest interest, which increases until the author reaches the river Styx, and the famous lake of Stymphalus, in the north of the peninsula. The former is dimly shadowed forth in the lights and shades of a romantic glen, the features of which are rather wild and strange than formidable. Doubtless these remote ravines and solitary mountains affected the Greek imagination more than they do that of a northern race. Col. Leake relates that the dwellers by this stream, though ignorant that they are living upon the banks of the dreaded Styx, hold the old tradition of the water being poisonous, and that it bursts every vessel into which it is placed. Mr. Linton did not hesitate to taste the water of the river in its frozen state, and found it harmless and refreshing. The description of the author's ramble in this glen is highly interesting. The lake Stymphalus is another spot of absorbing interest. Mr. Linton says that the mosquitoes are the lineal descendants of the Stymphalides; and the fact of the waters of the lake sinking through a rocky orifice, into a hidden subterranean channel, to appear again, it is said, in the Argolic plain as the river Erasinus, has been sufficient to surround the spot with mystery and awe in the eyes of the ancient inhabitants. Acro-Corinth presents little new to the eye of a

tourist, but in the journey westward from Corinth to Missolonghi, the immense conventional pile and stupendous rocks of Megaspilion are described as a spot of solemnity and majesty exceeding the dreams of the most ardent imagination. "Nature," says Mr. Linton, "has here worked on her grandest scale, while man has exceeded himself in the vastness of his effort to rival her—the scene is without a parallel."

The closing views are taken, as we have said, in British possessions—Zante, Cephalonia, Corfu. The same delicacies of treatment, the same soft melting distances and tender ethereal skies, prevail from one end to the other of these plates. Mr. Linton's art is of the highest order—it is best displayed in calm, open, and ample landscapes, and is least successful where foregrounds of rock in heavy masses of shade have to be described—but for the truthful rendering of remote objects seen under the conditions of light, air, and distance, in other words, for *chiaroscuro* and aerial perspective, it is an exhibition of the best possible practice, and of the most difficult and profound principles.

Besides those views already mentioned, that of Argos with the Citadel of Larissa, of the Harbour of Poros, of Lake Stympalus, and of Zante, among the remainder, best display these peculiar merits. It should be mentioned, finally, that a diary of clear and spirited description has been enriched with clusters of quotations from well-known poets, to charm the soul as well as the sense of the reader. A work so highly and variously adorned has not appeared for some time past.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

MADAME RISTORI terminated, on Wednesday night, an engagement which, if not highly productive to the management, has extended and consolidated her own reputation. On the preceding Friday she made her *début* before a London audience in comedy, and on Monday she appeared in a new tragic part, *Il Francesca da Rimini*, of Silvio Pellico. We cannot help feeling that Madame Ristori has been singularly unfortunate in nearly all the pieces selected for her performances in this country, and that had a higher range of characters been chosen, she would have left behind her a more satisfactory impression of her powers. Her first comedy was as ill chosen as her first tragedy. Italian dramatic literature is certainly not very rich in comedies, but it yields better specimens than are to be found amongst the numerous works of Goldoni, who has himself produced better pieces than *La Locandiera*. Goldoni's merits and defects are obvious on the surface. He wrote plays from behind the curtain, and not before it, and adapted them to the traditions of the stage and the demands of the actors, instead of seeking his materials in the surrounding life of society, and inspiring them with general interest. His characters are always duly labelled, and broadly distinguished by individual traits. One is a miser, another is a spendthrift, a third an *amorous*, a fourth a braggart, and so on. But having dressed them in their specialities, and put them upon the stage, their peculiarities evaporate, or are maintained only by the most conventional means. The higher art of developing them in action, and making them essential agents in the conduct of the story, never entered into the plans of the dramatist. Goldoni had no profound insight into character, no consciousness of its mixed elements, and neither wit nor vivacity to make amends for these deficiencies in the collisions of the dialogue. *La Locandiera* is the shrewd mistress of an hotel, who makes her profit out of the foibles of her guests, a proud pure aristocrat and a rich new-made count, who

are both contending for her favour, and a woman-hater, who piques her vanity. The whole substance of the play is consumed in the devices of a common-place kind, to which she resorts for bringing the woman-hater to her feet, while she is accepting presents from the others; and finally, having fooled and foiled all these, she marries her waiter. A single touch of sentiment might have imparted some interest to the design; but there was no sentiment in the genius of Goldoni, and consequently the piece is nothing more than a bare skeleton of dexterity. The heroine is a coquet of the old stamp, thoroughly heartless and unconscionable, fond of flattery, and always with an eye to business. There is no opportunity in such a part for the insinuation of emotions of any kind, or even for that play of womanly skill which derives its charm from a simulation of feeling. Nor does the treatment of the scenes afford any relief from the nakedness of the plot. There is hardly any movement from first to last; the appearance of a couple of actresses, who pretend to be ladies of quality, excites a momentary expectation of an enlivening *imbroglio*, but nothing comes of it; and the monotonous and lifeless dialogue lingers on through three long acts, till the audience are heartily glad to find that it has come to an end at last. The comedy would have been insufferably flat but for the acting of Madame Ristori, whose animation and intelligence helped considerably to redeem its weariness. In her hands, a character otherwise repulsive acquired a certain attraction, with which an inferior *artiste* could never have endowed it. She brought out all the points of her soliloquies and repartees, her wiles and stratagems, with a finished execution, which, like Warburton's commentaries upon Pope, discovered subtleties in the author which the author himself never dreamt of. But even her acting did not wholly redeem its disagreeable features. It was excellent of its kind; yet, from the nature of the part, which is shut up in the shallowest stage conventions, it failed to make any very marked impression. Fortunately, another opportunity was reserved for her to vindicate her claims as a *comédienne*. Before we dismiss this piece, we are bound to say that the actors by whom Madame Ristori was surrounded, seemed much more at home in this dull comedy than in the graver rôles in which they had previously appeared.

On Monday, an afternoon representation was given of the *Francesca da Rimini*, followed by a lively farce entitled *I Gelosi Fortunati*. The *Francesca* of Pellico is not the *Francesca* of Dante. The dark hint of the *Inferno* is expanded into a very commonplace story; the guilt which, implied rather than expressed, constitutes the awful interest of the original, is here softened down into an innocent attachment; and the terrible catastrophe which descends upon the lovers with the solemnity of fate, is brought about by an accident. The difference between the two sources of dramatic interest, Expectation and Surprise, the one grand and stern, the other mean and artificial, has seldom been so palpably exhibited as in the opposite treatment of this subject by Dante and his dramatist. But it would carry us out of our way to pursue a comparison which, after all, would ultimately lead to the conclusion that Pellico's failure is in some measure to be attributed to the choice of a theme utterly unsuited to dramatic treatment. There are, nevertheless, two or three scenes full of pathos and tenderness, regarded simply as passages in the lives of unhappy lovers; and in these scenes Madame Ristori transcended in our estimation all her former efforts. It would have been impossible to predicate from any of the characters in which she had previously appeared the intense expression of love she threw into the interview with *Paolo*, while listening to his narrative of the passion she had long before inspired; the exquisite delight that gradually overspread her features as the incidents of their first meeting were one by one recounted; and the glow of rapture which, more eloquent than words, plainly betrayed that the music of that well-remembered voice was taking entire possession of her soul again. There are not

many opportunities in the play for the development of such emotions, but where they do occur, the actress does infinitely more for them than the poet. It is in her looks, in the transitions of feeling that flit in lights and shadows over her face, and in the perfect rendering of that marvellous effect of love which is truly said to beautify its object, that the full power of this most touching delineation is chiefly felt. Had the tragedy been thoroughly worthy of her, *Francesca* would probably be regarded as her greatest performance. But it is poorly conceived in some parts, and is frittered down into mere commonplace in the end. Madame Ristori had further to contend against the incalculable disadvantage of being consigned to a lover with whom no stretch of the imagination could conceive it possible for her to entertain a sympathy in common. The only means by which the audience could enter into the illusion of the scene was to avert their eyes from Signor Boccioni, and concentrate their whole attention upon Madame Ristori.

If Madame Ristori had made her *début* in *I Gelosi Fortunati*, it would have been difficult to suppose that she possessed a single requisite for tragedy, or rather that her buoyant animal spirits and perfect *abandon* could ever be restrained within the bounds of gravity. This little piece, in a single scene, is thoroughly French in character and construction. A young husband and wife are jealous of each other, and have the grace to be so much ashamed of their distrust that they mutually conceal it, as if they had a consciousness of the groundlessness of their suspicions. After the usual run of equivocations and *contretemps*, everything is cleared up, and the reconciliation is a triumph of delight on both sides. The rapidity of the dialogue, the vivacity of the action, and the fluctuations of feeling throughout, afforded ample scope to the comic talents of the actress. Admirably expressed was her agony of jealousy when she imagines her absent husband kissing the hand of her supposed rival, and full of heartiness was the joy with which she flings herself into his arms when she discovers that her fears were unfounded. The entire piece was an episode of real life, acted at the height of a passionate impulse from the opening to the close.

The inauguration Festival at the Surrey Garden Concert Hall has been the great musical event of the week. The performance of the Messiah, with which the Festival commenced, was worthy of the occasion. Never, except at the celebrated Handel Commemoration, has the great oratorio been given with a larger amount of musical strength, the band and chorus numbering upwards of a thousand performers. The chief solo vocalists were Madame Clara Novello, Madame Rudersdorf, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Herr Fornes. The programmes of the miscellaneous concerts in the evenings during the week have contained many classical and popular works, including a new composition by M. Jullien, in commemoration of the return of peace. The Surrey Garden concerts have altogether had a most auspicious commencement. The music hall, exclusive of the orchestra, which accommodates a thousand performers, will hold about 10,000 persons, and 2000 more can be accommodated in the external galleries. The dimensions of Exeter Hall are 133 feet long, 77 wide, and 52 high. The dimensions of the Surrey hall are in the clear 153 feet 6 inches by 68 feet 6 inches, and the external dimensions, galleries and refreshment rooms included, are 173 feet 6 inches by 99 feet. The external galleries along the side are in width, the lower one 8 feet 6 inches, and the upper one 5 feet 9 inches. The internal galleries of the hall are in width 16 feet 6 inches, except in the case of the upper gallery, which does not project in front of the general line of columns. The height of the hall is 77 feet in the centre to the underside of the glass of the lights, and 70 feet deducting the lantern. Some details of the construction of the Surrey Hall, the acoustic properties of which are admirable, will be found in *The Builder* of this day. With ordinary judgment on

the part of the managing directors, there is every prospect of this undertaking being financially successful; and its influence in diffusing musical taste can scarcely be over-rated. The popularity of M. Jullien, both with the profession and the people, is a tower of strength to the company.

Another speculation of similar nature is before the public, in the project of a music hall, to be called the St. James's Hall, at the west end of London, with entrances from Regent-street and Piccadilly. The names of most of the leading musical publishers and contractors for musical entertainments appear on the list of promoters and shareholders. The scheme is well planned, and the details as to the building give good promise, but we question the prudence of at present setting on foot another undertaking of this magnitude. In the diffusion of taste for musical entertainment every one must rejoice, but there is risk of the matter being overdone.

The statements that have been published as to the rebuilding of Covent Garden Theatre are premature—nothing having been as yet done beyond the offer of the renewal of the lease on favourable terms, by the Duke of Bedford, and the promise of subscriptions being advanced by several persons of influence.

Madame Goldschmidt has forwarded the handsome donation of 100*l.* to the Royal Medical Benevolent College, accompanied with a kind expression of regret at not being able to sing for the benefit of that Institution.

From Munich we learn that the Countesses Theresa and Clara La Rosée have just made their *début* under the name of "Von Bassolet," in Bellini's opera, *I Capuletti ed i Montecchi*. Enthusiastic love for the art, and not poverty, is stated as the cause of this unusual proceeding.

The committee of the great September Mozart Festival in Salzburg, under Capelmeister Lachner's direction, has issued a circular, requesting all musicians who have been invited, and who intend to take part in the festivities, to signify the same before the end of July.

Of the amateur pantomime of *William Tell* we have so fully spoken already (*ante*, p. 358), it is only necessary to say that the Fair scene, and others requiring space, were more effective on Saturday, at Drury-lane, than on the occasion of its representation a few weeks previous at the Lyceum, and that the house was crowded in every part by a fashionable audience. The incident of chief dramatic interest and novelty during the evening, was the first appearance on any stage, in the little part of *Gertrude* in *The Loan of a Lover*, of a young lady, described in the bill as Miss Louisa Millar, but who we may be fairly warranted, by her unequivocal success, in stating, is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Keeley. She possesses a plump prettily moulded person, a naive and sweet expression of features, accompanied with easy gesture, and a very charming natural capacity for light ballad singing. There was something extremely touching in the pretty love scenes, with their alternations of pouting and fervid impulses, between *Gertrude* and *Peter Spyk*, the latter character enacted by her mother, with a dramatic reality of rustic simplicity and pathos which we have never seen equalled.

The burlesque of *Medea*, at the Olympic, according to "the leading journal," is "written with a sparkle which entitles Mr. Brough, its author, to be ranked among the first wits who labour for the stage." This criticism, if just, would say little for the dramatic authorship of our time. But the truth is, that, with the exception of some clever points, and a few smart puns, the piece is a trifling and commonplace production, chiefly characterized by small verbal jokes and abundant use of the slang of the day. The jingling rhymes, suitable enough for a Christmas extravaganza, are also out of place in a burlesque of a classical piece. The extraordinary performance of Mr. Robson, as the tragi-comic heroine, secures the attractiveness of the piece, in spite of the silliness of the "verbiage." Of Ristori, the direct mimicry is feeble, but the imitation of the intensity of her tragic acting, and

the wild tones and gesticulations, abruptly passing into ludicrous grotesqueness, are irresistibly amusing. The songs, as given by Misses St. George, Ternan, and Bromley, add to the entertainment of the piece; a strange song and dance by Mr. Robson being also a notable point. On the whole, we were disappointed, and it is not without a little feeling of humiliation that we add, that Madame Ristori was present at the first performance, and witnessed this exhibition of the taste of an English dramatic audience.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL.—June 18th.—Sir C. Lyell, Vice-President, in the chair.—1. 'Notes on the Geology of Trinidad.' By H. G. Bowen, Esq., F.G.S. The northern district of the Island of Trinidad, with the islands between it and the mainland, is composed of flagstone, slates, and schists, with quartz-veins and some dark-coloured intercalated limestone. These rocks are all apparently unfossiliferous; the slates often abound with iron, and some of the quartz-veins are slightly auriferous. Stalactitic caves occur in the limestone of the Island of Gaspar Grande, and at Las Cuevas and Arouca. Alluvial beds of clay and gravel are extensive in this district, and are sometimes sixty feet thick. At Lateen Bay, in Chicachicare Island, a patch of aluminous clay-slate occurs, with seams of crystalline limestone. The soil of this northern district is fertile on the limestone, and barren on the slates. The slate rocks appear to be the same as those of Venezuela, which overlie quartz-rock at Upata; and rounded boulders of quartz-rock occur in the flagstones. In the south of the Island of Trinidad red sandstone abounds, often ferruginous, and associated with clays which are often either bituminous or pyritous, and contain lignite and impressions of dicotyledonous leaves. In the Erin district the clay-beds have been sometimes indurated and jasperized by heat. They afford also small chalybeate and sulphuretted hydrogen springs, and in the blue-clay formation are found hillocks throwing up mud and water, and ponds covered by a film of mineral tar. The mud-volcanoes throw up saline water and greyish mud, in a cold state, with iron pyrites and water-worn pebbles of blue limestone, like that of the northern part of the Island, and sometimes of sandstone. They do not appear to be connected with the sea; and are most active at the close of the rainy season. At Moruga small hills of granular limestone occur. The succession of deposits in this southern part of Trinidad appears to be—beginning from below—1. Sandstone, variegated sands, lignitiferous clays, (sometimes jasperized), and the Moruga limestone; 2. Blue and brown clays, with bitumen; comprising the pitch-lakes, salt and alum springs, &c.; 3. Modern marine sand formation, from 50 to 100 feet thick; and alluvial deposits, seldom more than 30 feet thick. The eastern coast of Trinidad appears to consist of the red sandstones and bituminous clays as far north as Matura, beyond which the clay-slates set in. The western coast of the island, south of Port of Spain, which is built of the slate-rocks and limestone, exhibits only modern alluvial deposits, sometimes calcareous, frequently ferruginous, and resting towards the south on the red sandstone of the southern district. 2. 'On the fossils found in the Chalk-flints and Greensand of Aberdeenshire.' By J. W. Salter, Esq., F.G.S., and W. Baily, Esq. A notice of the occurrence of chalk-flints and greensand in Aberdeenshire has been published by W. Ferguson, Esq., F.G.S., in the 'Proceed. Glasgow Phil. Soc.' vol. iii. p. 33, and the 'Phil. Mag.' 1850, p. 430, and some of the facts had been previously noticed; but no lists of the fossils had been given. This communication showed the presence of characteristic Upper Greensand fossils in the low ground at Morescat: *Thetis minor*, *Arca carinata*, *Pinna tetragona*, and *Galerites castanea*. The *Lima elegans* of Nilsson is a new fossil for Britain, and is found with the ordinary *Inocerami* and *Echinites* of the chalk in the rolled

flints which form terraces round the hills in Aberdeenshire. The probable continuity, therefore, of these beds with those of the south of Sweden, where the same order of succession prevails, is inferred; the extension of the Upper Greensand so far north is a point of much interest. The Antrim beds are probably lower greensand only: at least their age is doubtful.

PHOTOGRAPHIC.—July 3rd.—The Lord Chief Baron, President, in the chair. Dr. McCosh, C. Alfieri, J. Bourd, B. Botfield, C. Logie, J. W. Parker, jun., J. P. Radcliffe, J. B. Robinson, and G. Romilly, Esqrs., were elected members. A paper was read by T. F. Hardwick, Esq., 'On the Chemistry of the Photographic Image.'

VARIETIES.

THE MAGIC GLASS.

HITHER maidens, merry maidens!
Come and view my magic glass;
I can tell you many marvels,
All things as they're sure to pass!
I can see adventure growing
Through a mystic power sublime;
Watch the hand of fortune throwing
Treasures in the hand of Time!
Come then, maidens, merry maidens,
Come and see my magic glass;
All the wonders I shall whisper,
True as time, are sure to pass!

Time, that like a seed appeareth,
Dry and dark and hard to view;
I can show you how it reareth
Leaf, and bud, and flow'et too!
Leaf of friendship, coyly hidden;
Flower of love, that shuns the sight;
Things to other eyes forbidden,
Unto mine are clear as light!
Come then, maidens, merry maidens!
Come and view my magic glass;
All the wonders I shall whisper,
True as time, are sure to pass!

Like a stage I see the future,—
Signs and symbols o'er it crowd,
Wild as wintry stars at midnight,
And they speak to me aloud:
Tell me secrets, worth believing,
Secrets with instruction rife—
What the loom of fate is weaving
From the mingled threads of life!
Come then, maidens, merry maidens,
Come and view my magic glass,
All the wonders I shall whisper,
Sure as time, will come to pass!

CHARLES SWAIN.

New York Historical Society.—A special meeting of this association took place on the evening of the 17th ult., at the small chapel in the University, the President, Luther Bradish, in the chair. After the reading of the minutes, and the usual preliminary business, the President proposed the name of Don Pedro II., Emperor of Brazil, as an honorary member, and Rev. Mr. Fletcher, an American naval chaplain, who had enjoyed the personal acquaintance of the Emperor, stated some interesting facts concerning his Majesty. He is a man of rare literary attainments, an accomplished linguist, and tolerably well versed in American history and literature. He is also not unacquainted with American poetry, and is an especial admirer of the works of Longfellow; he takes great interest in scientific subjects, and invariably presides over the meetings of the Historical Society in Rio Janeiro. By the unanimous vote of the members, Don Pedro II. was elected an honorary member of their Society.—*The New York Criterion*.

Circulation of the Provincial Press.—During the twelve days of Palmer's trial 385,020 copies were sold of the Manchester 'Examiner and Times,' being an average of upwards of 32,000 daily. On the last two days, the number sold was above 95,000, viz., 47,000 and 48,000 respectively.

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